Bay Area Reporter

VOL. XXIII NO. 42 OCTOBER 21, 1993

395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103



Spikes Win 1993 Gay World Cup!

The Spikes, San Francisco's gay soccer team, relax with their new trophy after winning SCORE '93, the International Gay Lesbian Football Association Championship, held October 8-10 in Los Angeles. More sports news follows on page 44.

CDC's SF TB Center

United Press International

The city of San Francisco has received a \$2.5 million federal grant to establish a model tuberculosis prevention and control center.

The award from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is for the first year of a three-year project to combat the rising incidence of tuberculosis.

The lung disease that once

The lung disease that once wiped out whole populations was nearly eradicated from the United States, but has

the United States, but has been making a fierce comeback in recent years.

Some of the funds will be used to reach the homeless, drug-using, and imprisoned populations, which are at highest risk for TB. Also, there will be an education and training center, control programs, improved laboratory services, and automated surveillance and record-keeping systems.

san venance and record-keep-ing systems.

San Francisco health offi-cials said the city's patients have a good record of compli-ance with doctor's orders and ance with doctor's orders and the number of cases of drugresistant TB are low. However, they said, "San Francisco's unique high-risk populations constantly challenge our ability to control an epidemic that has soared through the nation."

Rally for Joan Brown, Lesbian Who Died of AIDS, on Saturday

Speak-out To Address 'Denial Supported by Lack of Information'

by Dennis Conkin

Hundreds of activists and supporters of AIDS and women's groups will honor the life and activism of lesbian Joan Brown, who died of AIDS last month after a six-year battle with the disease.

On Saturday, August 23, at noon, the crowd will march from Dolores Park at 18th and Dolores Park at 18th and Castro, for a speak-out that will include talks from Baker's lover Jenn Maeder; Tia Martinez and Melissa Jones from the Health Department's Office of AIDS; two lesbians living with HIV; and the director of HIV services from Lyon Martin's Women's Health Services.

from Lyon Martin's Women's Health Services.

The march is endorsed by a coalition of groups including the Lesbian Avengers, Women Organized to Respond to Life-threatening Diseases (WORLD), ACT UP/San Francisco, and other groups groups.

According to Lesbian Avenger Judith Cohen, organizers hope to shatter the myth that women who have sex with women can't contract HIV/AIDS.

Baker was diagnosed with HIV in 1986 and was kicked

out of her apartment by a for-mer lover. She eventually be-came homeless, and lived for a time in welfare hotel in the Tenderloin.

Baker was also initially de-nied SSI disability compensation, even after men with AIDS had been granted the insurance, a policy that she fought and helped to defeat. At the time she was diag-nosed with AIDS there were

no support groups for women with the disease, and Baker



also had trouble getting treat-ment for cervical cancer because there was no medical research conducted on HIV/AIDS-related problems

"The belief is that lesbians do not get AIDS," said Naomi Prochovnic, an HIV counselor at Lyon-Martin. "One of the problems is that we face an

incredible level of denial

incredible level of denial that's supported by a lack of information. Anytime HIV has entered a community, it has entered small. And it's never stayed that way," she told the Bay Area Reporter.

One of the reasons for the denial, according to Prochovnic, starts with the federal Centers For Disease Control — which she says doesn't believe in (and does not track) woman-to-woman transmission.

'The CDC definition of what a lesbian is [for purposes of tracking] also leaves a lot of women out, who may have come out since since 1977, or who are workers in the sex industry, or who have been raped. "We don't have any idea of

we don't nave any tidea of the numbers of lesbians living with AIDS," she said. "A woman identified as a les-bian, but who got infected through injection drug use or through heterosexual sex, is

not counted as a lesbian."

Prochovnic said that Lyon-Martin provided health care services to 70 women with HIV and AIDS during the HIV and AIDS during the last fiscal year ending in June; 17 (or nearly 25 percent) were lesbian, and nine (13 percent) were bisexual.

S.F. DPH Releases Studies on Lesbians and AIDS: The News Isn't Good

by Angela Bocage

On Tuesday, October 19, the AIDS Office of the San Francisco Department of Public Health presented two groundbreaking new surveys focusing on women who have sex with women. The two studies, surveying almost a thousand Bay Area women in all, reveal that HIV seroprevalence among lesbian and bilence among lesbian and bi-sexual women is an estimated

sexual women is an estimated 1.3 percent — up to three times higher than DPH estimates for women in the population at large — and that a community believing itself to be at little or no risk for HIV is engaging in some very dangerous behaviors.

The first survey, "HIV Seroprevalence and Risk Behaviors Among Lesbians and Bisexual Women: The 1993 San Francisco/Berkeley Survey" was conducted by the AIDS Office Surveillance Branch in collaboration with the Berkeley Department of Health and Human Services, and received support from Health and Human Services, and received support from the national Centers for Disease Control. Principal investigator Dr. George Lemp sees this as a sign of new willingness at the CDC to address women's health issues. "We are seeing changes among the CDC staff," he said. "When we suggested studies like these a couple of years ago, they were called unnecessary, they were dismissed. Now, they were dismissed. Now, without fanfare, they've funded this study and been very supportive."

The second survey, "Health Behaviors Among Lesbian and Bisexual Women: A Community-Based Women's Health Survey" was conducted by the Prevention Services Branch of the AIDS Services Branch of the AIDS Office and is part of a series of studies targeting specific communities" "knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors" vis a vis health issues and AIDS, according to epidemiologist Stephen Mills, Assistant Chief of the AIDS Office Prevention Services Branch and principal investigator for the study, Mills joined fellow researchers and Dr. Valerie Kegebein, chief of Prevention Services, in admit.

Military Ban Still In Judicial Limbo

United Press International

WASHINGTON - A week WASHINGTON — A week after the Defense Department said it would ask the Supreme Court to block a federal judge's order lifting the ban on gays in military, the Justice Department says no such decision has been

made. Meanwhile, the U.S. military effectively has been with-out a policy on lesbians and gays in uniform since October

Following the judge's or-der, the Pentagon ordered the services to take no adminis-trative action against a service

member based on sexual orientation or announced homo

entation or announced homo-sexuality.

A Pentagon spokeswoman said last week that the De-fense Department would ask the Supreme Court to block the judge's decision until an appeal could be heard.

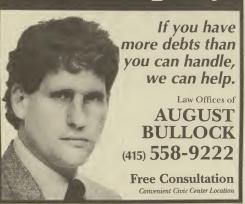
But the Justice Department

First of Two Sections

said later that the administrasaid later that the administration had not yet made up its mind to ask for Supreme Court help, and the Defense Department conceded it had jumped the gun.

The court action has put the administration's "don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue" policy in limbo.

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Community News



Whip It Good!

Miss GAPA Victoria Voovah gets her tulle tenderized in a locker room session with Tuan Tram during Homocoming, an HIV Prevention Education/Fundraising Dance sponsored by four Asian gay Groups.

For a Good Cause: Sanctioned **Acts of Violence Against Supes**

by Dennis Conkin

Some of San Francisco most loved — and hated — politicians and celebrities will participate in a celebrity dunking contest in order to raise \$10,000 for the Tenderloin After School Project on Thursday, October 28.

Among the politicians and political advisors who will offer their bodies for the worthy cause are Supervisors Terence Hallinan, Kevin Shelley, and Susan Leal.

Political savants and campaign strategists Dick Pabich and John Dreis will also take

pargin strategists blek rabbil and Jack Davis will also take part as sacrificial victims, as will former police chief Richard Hongisto. "There are more than 4,000

"There are more than 4,000 children living in the Tenderloin, and the this is the only after school program in the neighborhood," said celebrity toss spokesman Timothy Gillespie. "It's one of the most underserved areas in the

state.

"It's really a dreadful situation. When kids in the Tenderloin get home from schools, most are stuck at home because their parents are working. The After School program gives them a safe, educationally-based place to stay until their parents get home," Gillespie



Dick toss: Former Police Chief Richard Hongisto among the pols and celebs getting wet for a good cause. How high will Kim Corsaro

told the Bay Area Reporter.
Other celebrity pool toss victims will include restaurateurs Harry Denton, Bard Ogden of One Market Street, Ed Moose of the Washington Square Bar and Grill, and Lebrary Love.

hnny Love.

Journalist victims will include Tim Redmond of the San Francisco Bay Guardian and Examiner columnist Bill Mandel.

Mandel.
Judges of the event will include Supervisors Carole
Migden, Barbara Kaufmann,
and Sue Bierman. City Attorney Louise Renne and State
Senator Milton Marks will also assist in judging the con-

They will judge how ele-gantly people end up in the pool," Gillespie told the B.A.R.

The executive director of the Tenderloin Neighborhood Development Corporation, Kelly Cullen O.F.M, a Franciscan brother who spear-heads the After School Pro-ject, will also participate in the fundraiser — replete with his brown habit.

The event is co-sponsored by the Harvey Milk Progressive Democratic Club and the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian and Gay Democratic club. The clubs became involved be-cause members recognize the need to support the programs of TSAP, Gillespie told the B.A.R.

The fundraiser will be held poolside at the Hotel Phoenix, at Larkin and Eddy Streets, from 5:30-7:30 pm. Tickets are \$25, which in-

cludes food and drink.

For more information, call
Gillespie at 775-1306. ▼

Correction:

The B.A.R. incorrectly reported in Issue 41 that Gilroy res-

The B.A.R. incorrectly reported in Issue 41 that Gilroy resident Peter Baez had raised the highest amount of money ever raised as an individual walker in any AIDS Walk history; we meant to say in San Jose's AIDS Walk history.

The 1993 San Francisco AIDS Walk's top walker, Jeft Lyons, has correctly and proudly notified us he has out-raised Baez. After collecting 400 sponsors and leading the first place fundraising Charles Schwab and Co. team, Lyons topped out his 1993 effort at an amazing \$38,525.

The Pacific Bell fundraising team, led by Steve Sams, beat him out in last year's AIDS walk, he explained to the B.A.R., so this year he was "out for blood."

As a classic example of his fundraising tenacity: while getting a blood transfusion, Lyons noticed a phone beside him, and before the transfusion was over, he'd raised another \$1,000. "The most fun I ever had was doing volunteer work," he told the B.A.R. \(\bar{V} \)

told the B.A.R. ▼

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Community News

PWAs Go to Pot — And That's Good

by Dennis Conkin

More hearings about medical marijuana are scheduled for the San Francisco Board of Supervisors on November 9 in the Health, Public Safety,

and Environment Committee.
"The hearings are about the best way to facilitate the the best way to facilitate the distribution to allow patients to have access for medical use," said Jerry Windley, an aide to Supervisor Angela

Classified as a federal Schedule 1 Drug, possession and distribution of the plant

A change in federal drug A change in federal drug classification from a Schedule 1 to a Schedule 2 drug would designate marijuana as dangerous but with medical uses. In November, 1991, 80 percent of San Francisco voters approved Proposition P, the medical marijuana intitativa.

medical marijuana initiative allowing doctors to prescribe marijuana for medical purpos-

In August 1992, the San Francisco Board of Supervi-sors and Mayor Jordan passed a resolution requesting the police Department and the a resolution requesting police Department and the District Attorney to place the enforcement and prosecution of marijuana laws as their

lowest priority.

Last August, a Senate Joint Resolution, SJR 8, passed both houses of the California legislature, calling on Congress and the Clinton Administration to enact legislation permitting licensed physicians to prescribe marijuana for medical uses.

Dennis Peron, a longtime Dennis Peron, a longtime marijuana advocate and a spokesman for Americans For Compassionate Use, says that two years since the first city resolution was passed—people with AIDS are still forced to buy marijuana on the street at inflated prices. Currently, an ounce of the stuff runs about \$600.

I'm just totally pissed off about it," said Peron. "It's why people have taken matters into their hands with the Buyer's Club."

Peron told the Bay Area

Peron told the Bay Area Reporter that there are more than a dozen cannabis buyers

clubs around the country pro-

viding pot for people with AIDS and cancer.

In most cases, the buyers clubs provide pot for PWAs on disability, SSI, or other fixed income, at cost plus ten percent.

Those who can afford to pay more are usually charged cost plus 25 percent, to help subsidize the discounts to low-income members of the

club.
"The purpose of the club is to get medical marijuana to people when it's essential to save their lives. Marijuana's not a miracle drug, but it is an important adjunctive to other therapies," said Peron.

The drug is used to offset the nausea associated with chemotherapy and is a power-ful appetite stimulant, an im-portant point, according to Peron, for people with AIDS who must eat but have no ap

An FDA approved pot substitute drug called Marinol is available for prescription, but patients routinely complain that it doesn't provide the same effect as marijuana and complain of its expense compared to the herb.

Marinol contains a synthetic version of Delta-9 tetrahydro-cannibinol, the active ingredient in marajuana, but patients complain that it is not as ef-fective as the herb and outrageously expensive — an esti-mated \$750 for a month's sup-

According to Peron, 35 states have resolutions similar to California's SJR 8. He said marijuana has been recognized as a benign drug longer than any other subject, and disputes a recent statement from the FDA that the benefits of pot smoking for PWAs is a "cruel hoax."

is a "cruel hoax."

"The FDA is who's perpetrating a cruel hoax," Peron said, "aided and abetted by pharmaceutical manufacturers. They would rather sell Marinol for seven bucks, Marinol for seven bucks, knowing it doesn't work, than allow sick people to grow something that will improve the quality of their lives. That's cruel. That's sick." ▼



"Brownie Mary" Rathburn and longtime marijuana advocate Dennis Peron'give thumbs up to the Marks/Mello SJR 8, which is now before the State Assembly Health Committee, at a ral-ly this summer at People's Park in Berkeley. (Photo: Judi Parks)

HIV Pot User Cleared With Medical Necessity Defense

United Press International

SAN DIEGO — A La Mesa man's contention that he grew and used marijuana to help fight his HIV virus infection has kept him out of jail.

But the legal jousting over

But the legal jousting over his gardening is not over.
Samuel Skipper, 39, was the first Californian allowed to use medicinal need as a defense in a marijuana cultivation case. It paid off Friday, October 16, when a San Diego Superior Court jury acquitted him on two felony counts of raising the illicit weed at his home.

Skipper claimed eating

Skipper claimed eating and smoking marijuana daily relieved nausea caused by the HIV virus and kept him from

losing large amounts of

weight.
"I'm not presently growing it, but I am using it and I am not going to stop," Skipper told reporters outside the courtroom.

Jury foreman Bob Lenzi said Skipper "proved he had the necessity to use cannabis to save his own life."

The verdict could have an impact on other HIV and AIDS patients who may turn to backyard gardens for treatment.

Skipper, however, had pleaded guilty in 1991 to a charge of growing marijuana and faces revocation of probation which could send him to jail. Skipper also ran afoul of courthouse deputies during the trial when they seized a peanut butter ball laced with marijuana he had brought to

peant buttle van laced with marijuana he had brought to court to present as evidence. Skipper predicted later that the seized snack would lead to a raft of charges involving transportation and possession of drugs.

Police can enter Skipper's home without a warrant at any time because he is on probation. Prosecutors have said Skipper will be arrested if they catch him cultivating marijuana again.

Skipper's lawyer, Juliana Humphrey, said she will ask the judge in the case to remove that condition from Skipper's probation. She said that will allow Skipper to resume growing marijuana.

Health & Community

ACT UP Golden Gate Tuesdays, 7pm. 584B Castro. Discuss treatment issues, and prepare for the Oct. 29 massive Day of the Dead demonstration in Sacramento, with a real political funeral. 252-9200.

African American Women's Conference Lectures, workshops, performances and exhibits on survival, economics, dance, relationships, racism, and empowerment. Oct. 21-24. Oakland Convention Center, Parc Oakland Hotel. (619) 560-2770.

AIDS/HIV Nightline Seeks volunteers to staff phones. Call Rolph or Dave at 752-4866.

AIDS Update Conference Workshops on almost a hundred issues, plus theatre and film showings. Oct. 19-23. SF Civic Center. \$50-245. 255-1297.

Alternative Alcohol Problem Fellowship Tuesdays, 8-9:30pm, 398-6594.

Asian Pacifica Lesbian & Bisexual Retreat "Moving Beyond Visibility" Workshops, empowerment sessions, and fun in the sun, \$125. Oct. 22-24. Santa Cruz. 873-5165.

Bay Area Young Positives HIV support group for young people of color. Weekly meetings, activities. Every Wednesday, 7pm. 25 Van Ness, 5th fl. 923-0460.

Brothers Network (Bay Area HIV Support & Education Services) Drop-in support groups, closed groups as well. 625 O'Farrell. 749-6714.

Crossings Program Volunteer Training Provide Emotional and practical support to PWAs in the Tenderloin, Mission and SoMa. Help out now. Trainings Oct. 30 & Nov. 6 & 7 Darnell at Shanti: 777-2273.

Francis of Assisi Community Subsidized housing facility for mobility-impaired and wheelchair users is now taking waiting list applications for housing. 621-4092 (TT 1-800-755-2929).

Gay A/PI Identity GAPA Men's Group on self-image meets Tuesdays, 6:30-8pm. Thru Nov. 23 in Berkeley. meets luesdays, (510) 841-6224.

GLOE (Gay & Lesbian Outreach to Elders) Meetings, potlucks, friendship groups. Call 626-7000.

Hearing Loss & Communication Classes for PWAs and PWHIV. Oct. 30. 9am-noon. Kaiser Permanente. 693-5870.

HIV+ Support & Education Programs Different groups for gay men, women, public education forums, couples, family & friends support group, and socials. All groups meet 6:30-8pm, Mondays & Tuesdays. 235 W. MacArthur Blvd., Room 530. 596-6337.

Home Care Companions Skills training sessions for non-professionals caring for PWAs. Oct. 25-29. 7pm-10pm. Davies Medical Center. 824-3269.

Jewish Parents of Gay Men & Lesbians Confidential, supportive discussion group. Meets the last Tuesday of each month (Oct. 26). 7pm. Jewish Family Service of Santa Clara County. 399-2202.

Lesbian Avengers March Joined by ACT UP/SF, ACT UP/GG, WAC, & Lyon Martin Women's Health Services in a local political funeral and speak-out for Joan Baker. Speakers include Joan's lover, Dept. of Health reps, plus lesbians with AIDS. Oct. 23, noon, Dolores Park, 18th & Dolores. 267-6195.

LYRIC & LYFE Education/social group for the queer youth community. Tuesdays, 6-8pm, 1748 Market, Suite 201. 565-7681.

Mastering the Media Media Activist Training discussion and workshop with GLAAD and NGLTF. Led by Robert Bray. Learn advanced strategies for gay rights and issues. Nov. 6. 9am-6pm. First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin at Geary. 861-4588.

Oral History Project Gay & Lesbian Historical Society seeks new storytellers and interviewers. Bilingual Spanish speakers sought. Training sessions for interviewers Oct. 24, noon-3pm. 626-0980.

P-FLAG Regular meeting of parents of gays and lesbians. Oct. 26, 7-9pm. Unitarian Church, 490 Aguajito Rd., Carmel. 655-2629.

Race for the Cure 5K run and 1 mile walk to raise money for the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. \$22 entry fee. Oct. 24. 8:30am. Sharon Meadow, Golden Gate Park. 1-800-462-9273.

Sex and Love Addiction Free eight-week course in understanding the nature of these obsessions and how to develop healthy patterns of intimacy. Begins Oct 26, 6:30pm. Everett Middle School, 450 Church. 585-5150.

SF AIDS Foundation Seeks volunteers for its telephone hotline, specifically English-speaking and bilingual Filipino and Spanish operators. 864-5855, ext. 2051.

Spectrum Lesbian and Gay Men's Support Groups Reservations now being taken for groups meeting Monday evenings. Eight-week commitment required. \$15 per session. 457-1115.

UCSF Positive Education Project Group program for HIV-positive gay men with 200 to 500 T-cell counts. Meets weekly thru Dec. 1. Derek: 597-9141.

Voices of Pride Sexual minority resource center offers support services to queer and questioning youth 23 and under. (510) 530-8529 or (415) 553-4026.

Community News

What a Drag: Evangelicals vs. the Motherlode

by Dennis Conkin

An Evangelical Protestant denomination called Apos-tolic Faith is opposing the proposed move of the Moth-erlode bar from its location at

erlode bar from its location at Larkin and Post to a site right next door to the group's church on Sutter Street.

The transfer of the bar's license will be the subject of a hearing by the state's Division of Alcohol and Beverage Control on October 29.

"There are quite a few protestants from the Apostolic Faith Church," said ABC investigator Jadine Wong.

During the hearing, the applicant for the transfer of location will discuss why such a move should be granted and

move should be granted and opponents will discuss why it should be denied, according

The hearing is not conducted by the Alcohol and Beverage Control, but by an independent state agency called the Office of Administrative Procedure, Wong told the Bay Area Reporter.

Following the hearing, a written decision is issued and

written decision is issued and both applicants and opponents have the right to appeal the decision, Wong said, but decisions are rarely appealed. The role of the ABC is to investigate the facts of the case: who is applying and where the bar will be located, why the applicant feels the



Motherlode and mother church in conflict: In a rever-sal of the good neighbor policy, protestants are pro-testing have a bar next door (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

license should be granted and why opponents object.

"There used to be a law..."

The church opposes the

move of the bar to the proposed location at 1217 Sutter Street "because that's right next door to the church," said AFC's Pastor Bishop.
"We are a church and a Sunday school with families and children, which has been established in the same location for a little under 50 years. There used to be a zoning law that said you couldn't ing law that said you couldn't have a bar within 500 feet of a church," Bishop told the B.A.R. "Our basic premise is that a bar is not conducive to what we have been'

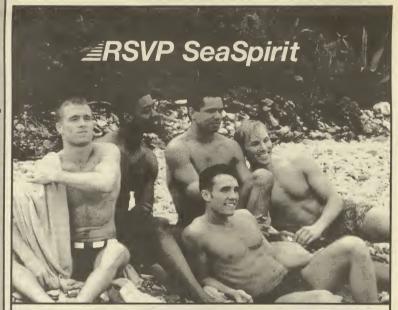
Bishop said that he was only recently assigned to the congregation of about 100 worshippers, and that the church's former pastor would testify at the ABC hearing.

Bishop also cited the high crime area of the current loca-tion of the Motherlode and expressed concern that such expressed crime, including prostitution and drugs, may travel with the gender-bending bar when it changes location.

A police permit granting the change of venue was ap-proved earlier this month.

A spokesperson for the Motherlode was unavailable for comment.

The ABC hearing will be held on October 29 at 9 a.m. at 355 Golden Gate in Room 2248. ▼



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Editorial

The B.A.R. Endorses: City Attorney Louise Renne

We are pleased to endorse Louise Renne for re-

election as City Attorney. During her term in office she has helped to make San Francisco a model in the field of civil and human rights.

She appointed the first openly gay person as a division head in the City Attorney's office. Her office has intervened in several sexual orientation discrimination cases to



uphold San Francisco's Gay Rights ordinance against the pre-emption of a much weaker state law. This stand has now forced the state Supreme Court to agree to hear these cases

Her office drafted a new workable financing plan, to ensure health coverage for domestic partners of city employees. She also developed a model for protecting the confidentiality of health workers exposed to the HIV virus.

Louise also sued to obtain medical reimbursement costs for AIDS patients at San Francisco General

She also developed a far-reaching and innovative settlement in the infamous "Castro Sweep" lawsuit, where community-based AIDS organizations received \$75,000 — this is part of the same case in which her opponent defended Captain Cairns's alleged "fag bashing" charges, pro bono (free of charge), during that same Castro Street abuse of police power. Don't be fooled by that godfly and his lice power. Don't be fooled by that gadfly and his political mentor, Quentin Kopp.

Louise Renne has proved her faith and loyalty to our community. She deserves our support and our votes for re-election.

City Treasurer Mary Callanan

Mary Callanan has managed to keep politics out of the Treasurer's office —



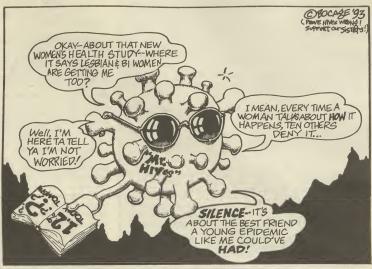
and they should stay out. In her 13 years in the office, she has consistently earned an average of ten percent return a year on the city's investment portfolio, or in excess of \$102,500,000 a year.

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ment, with maximum safety and prudence at all times.

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Mary Callanan deserves your vote for reelection. ▼



Guest Opinion

Is Clinton as Hostile as Bush?

Last year, I joined virtually the entire gay and lesbian community in rejoicing over Bill Clinton's election as President of the United States. Having actively sought out gay community support and received it in overwhelming, enthusiastic measure, he promised a refreshing change from 12 years of Reagan-Bush gay bashing and hate mongering. Indeed, his Democratic collective had prior to the time proven little better. bashing and hate mongering. Indeed, his Democratic colleagues had, prior to that time, proven little better than the Republicans in their treatment of lesbians and gays and their issues of concern. Bill Clinton appeared to be different. Sadly, he seems so far to have proven himself to be just another straight politician eager to have gay and lesbian community money and votes but unwilling to accord this community the same recognition and honor he gives to other key elements of his electoral coalition. electoral coalition

electoral coalition.

Aside from a handful of largely insignificant appointments (sorry, Roberta, 20 years in Washington taught me that assistant secretaries are a dime-a-dozen and H.U.D. is a backwater and largely irrelevant), and a "photo-op" Oval Office meeting that produced nothing of substantive value, his response to our community and its interests has proven lukewarm at best and, in many key respects, every bit as bostile as that of his

in many key respects, every bit as hostile as that of his Republican predecessors.

Item. He fell all over himself ignoring the largest gay rights demonstration in the nation's history, in which response he was joined by his entire administra-

Item. Having staked out a courageous and defensible position on the question of allowing openly lesbian and gay members of the armed forces to stay in the military, he failed at every subsequent opportunity to demonstrate any leadership or to try to educate Congress or the American people about the fundamental friends of the state of the sta

Congressor the American people about the fundamental fairness of his stated position.

Item. Not satisfied with abject, blind retreat from his stated position, he left hammering out a "compromise" largely to the joint chiefs of staff and straight Pentagon bureaucrats, deliberately excluding not only gay and lesbian community leaders but also proponents of his own position from all meaningful deliberations until conclusions were already reached.

ations until conclusions were already reached.

Item. He had the effrontery to try to convince the American people and the lesbian and gay community

that his sellout of their interests was an honorable compromise. Compromises are reached when all parties

promises. Compromises are reached when all parties agree with the outcome they produce.

Item. He proved unwilling to defend even his so-called "compromise" against efforts to codify an even less acceptable version and his administration actively supported efforts of bigots like Senator Sam Nunn (D. GA) and Congressman Ike Skelton (D. 4th MO) to write hatred and prejudice into the statutes of the United States.

Item. His Attorney General and Department of Justice attorneys have embraced the legal arguments and rhetoric used by their Reagan-Bush predecessors in op-posing all litigation brought by lessian and gay service members challenging the Constitutionality of military

anti-lesbian and gay discrimination.

Item. At his direction, government lawyers took up and have now successfully pursued the legal campaign of their Reagan-Bush predecessors against a gay CIA employee dismissed from that agency for "security" reasons. Before our eyes, Janet Reno threatens to turn into Ed Messe.

reasons. Before our eyes, Janet Reno threatens to turn into Ed Meese.

Item. He has so far refused to stop discrimination against lesbians and gays where it still exists in civilian federal employment and has failed to take meaningful steps to codify employment and other civil rights protections for lesbians and gays in and out of govern-

ment.

Item. It has been reported that Administration and Democratic Party officials are unconcerned about the reaction of the lesbian and gay community to Clinton Administration hostility toward their interests and fundamental rights because, "they don't have anywhere least to re."

else to go."

Bill Clinton has proven to be nothing if not flexible Bill Clinton has proven to be nothing if not flexible in his expressed beliefs and the policies to which he is willing to commit his Administration. Perhaps he will reconsider his record thus far and work, for the remainder of his Administration, to change it. That would prove a welcome change from the policies of the first nine months of his term and would earn him the undying support of the entire gay and lesbian community.

nity. Sad to say, though, as we near the first anniversary of hiselection, he has done little to give meaning to his promise, expressed so eloquently a year-and-a-half ago, of a new vision for America of which lesbians and gays would be a part.

Roxxie Rosen Patrick Hoctel Jim Provenzano

PHOTOGRAPHERS Darlene/PhotoGraphics, Jane Cleland, Rick Gerharter Judi Parks

POLITICAL CARTOONIST Angela Bocage John Sieruta

PRODUCTION CREW
Robert Hold, Linda Kilduff David C. Hetherly

Thomas E. Horn, Esq. Chas Wesdell

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS
Dianne Aaronson, Rene M. Astudillo,
Noreen C. Barnes, John Blanco,
Michael C. Botkin, Nancy Boutilier,
Philip Campbell, Dennis Conkin,
Jim Coughenour, M.R. Covino,
Tim Farrell, Michael Flanagan,
Mark Freeman, Roberto Friedman,
Loralie Frohman,
Anthony N. Hauser, Eric Hellman,
Chad Jones, John F. Karr,

Anthony N. Hauser, Eric Hellman, Chad Jones, John F. Karr,
Jeffery Kennedy, I.A. Kisselman,
Karl Bruce Knapper, Ron Lazar,
Elliott Linwood, Jason Lorber,
Mr. Marcus, Jerry Metzker,
Karen Ocamb, Orland Outland,
Deborah Peifer, Rachel Pepper,
Jim Provenzano, Jeremy Quittner,
Mary Richards, John Ross,
Doug Seto, Marv. Shaw,
Rick Thoman, Paul Thomason,
Dick Walters, Lauren Ward
POLITICAL EDITOR

POLITICAL EDITOR
Wayne Friday

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etters

Incredible

Is everyone over their temper tantrum regarding Bill Clinton and the ban? Well good, because we need

Bill Clinton and the ban? Well good, because we need to see what a quantum leap the gay community will make as a result of his health care or insurance for any reason, period. Let's not overlook this incredibly positive development. No more will folks with AIDS have to become impoverished to qualify for care. And those who don't have access to the life-saving preventitive maintenance for HIV will now be in the mix. Families will not have to go bankrupt to care for their loved ones. Heartless insurance companies will no longer be able to block access to life-extending care. Before we start screaming impeachment because of our disappointment over the issue of the military ban, let's ask outselves this: A Republican presidential canter's ask outselves this: A Republican presidential canter ask outselves this: A Republican presidential canter ask outselves this: A Republican preside

let's ask outselves this: A Republican presidential can

let s ask outselves this. A Repoincian presidential camididate in 1996 will owe us nothing. Do we want to be locked out on the federal level for another 12 years? Let's forgive Bill Clinton for learning on the job and being new at the helm. Let's wake up to the bitterness and hate of Sam Nunn and Bob Dole who control the levers of power. And let's get behind Bill Clinton who is really on our side.

Larry Goodermont West Hollywood, CA

Ed. Note: And Dorothy will find her way home by merely clicking her heels. Reality check!

Leather Thanks

On the eve of my departure from your fine city, let me say to the San Francisco gay/lesbian leather com-munity: Thank You! for a wonderful Leather Pride Week.

I realize, after this stupendous week of leather revelry, the leather lifestyle is for me. My decision to spend my vacation in San Francisco for leather pride week was the right one, after all.

I learned about your celebration during Fantasy '93 here in Omaha earlier this year when leather people and title holders were here in this staid, midwestern town for fundraising under the auspices of Dustin Logan. The fantasies presented by the title holders and their display of brother/sister hood and cameraderie whetted my appetite for a deeper insight into the leather lifestyle and all its trappings. I was not disap-

Everyone I met while I was in San Francisco in the leather venues was friendly, helpful and made me feel more than welcome. I met many title holders, candidates for Mr. Drummer and Drummer Boy and other personalities important to the leather community. The leather "daddy" of SF, Philip, was very helpful with directions. The B.A.R. leather columnist Mister Marcus gave me much insight into the workings of the leather men and women here and his pride Mister Marcus gave me much insight into the workings of the leather men and women here and his pride
in their accomplishments. A bartender at the Eagle
kept me amused, informed and laughing at every visit
when I was in the back section of the bar; his
customers affectionately referred to him as "Stella".

The Mr. Drummer contest was superb and the
Folsom Street Fair with all the booths, entertainment

and leather people was something I could never imagine to exist. I met people from all over the U.S. as well as Australia and Germany and even International

Well as Austrana and Germany and even international Mr. Leather from Amsterdam!

So I repeat, "Thank You San Francisco." As I prepare to pack and leave for the airport, I had to take this time to let you know that my heart is heavy at leaving your wonderful city and all the people who workedso hard to make it an unforgettable experience with their hard work, dedication, caring and pride. I will setup to San Francisco. return to San Francisco - and hopefully, next time

Ladislov Janicek South Omaha, Nebraska

An Endorsement for Senator

Remember Jim Nielsen? As a California state senator he was outrageously anti-gay.

In a moment of clarity, his district voted him out of office. Now an even worse extremist is running in the same district (the 4th). Maurice Johannessen has millions of dollars to spend in this campaign from his own fortune from real estate as well as funds from Southern California's religious right. He soundly defeated a well-known moderate Republican in the August primary.

August primary.

The 4th District (currently eastern Sonoma, Napa, Lake, Colusa, Glenn, Butte, Tehama and Shasta counties) will have the opportunity to send a friend of mine, Montana Podva, to the state senate in November. Unlike Johannesen, Monte is an environmentalist, prochoice on abortion, against government waste and a strong defender of our Bill of Rights and social justice. He needs and deserves our support and we need him in Sacramento.

Please call (707) 544-0424 to help with Montana Podva's campaign. Donations can be sent to: Californians for Montana Podvaa, 701 Fourth St., Santa Rosa, CA.,

State law requires you list your occupation and address. There's a \$1,000 maximum limit on donations in special elections. Get involved and if you live in the 4th District, VOTE on November 2nd

Wendy J. White Glenhaven, CA

Credit Due to ACT UP and Inmates

The article in issue 39 of the B.A.R., "A New Warden at Vacaville-Maybe a New Level of Care", contained a material misstatement of fact which needs to be cor-

rected.

Somehow, the efforts of Assemblyman John Burton and his Sacramento staff, Jim Provenza and Judith Garvey, were attributed to Senator Milton Marks. While Sen. Marks and his aide Carol Stuart, have taken an interest in the current situation, particularly the compassionate release problem, he was not in-

ly the compassionate release problem, he was not involved in last Fall's investigation and report.

With assistance from ACT UP/San Francisco and inmates in the prision, Mr. Provenza and Ms. Garvey did an outstanding job of investigating complaints at the prison. The report they submitted was comprehensive, making 25 recommendations for im-

provements.

The current problems result from the failure of the Department of Corrections to follow through on its promises for improvements.

It is only right to give credit where credit is due, and the credit is due Mr. Burton and his staff.

Lawrence A. Wilson San Francisco

Ed. Note: The B.A.R. deeply regrets the error.

Keep on Truckin' Bill The following letter was sent to President Bill Clinton, The White House, Washington,

It is a dark day in America, indeed, when a govern-mental body such as the U.S. Senate attempts to legislate discrimination based on its own personal prejudices. The ignorance of a few persons in positions of authority and influence such as Sam Nunn and Jesse Helms, is causing the Modern Dark Age (1000 - ????) to be extended into your potentially enlightened administration.

When you were elected president, a new light of understanding and justice suddenly brightened the understanding and justice suddenly brightened the political horizon, causing the hearts of countless citizens to swell with renewed hope for the future. However, regretfully, by not signing an Executive Order as you promised, lifting the ban on homosexuals in the military, you have cast a serious shadow of doubt across your administration.

Nevertheless, I implore you not to despair but to continue your efforts to make our nation that which it has historiclly, yet, far too inaccurately declared itself to be: a nation of equal opportunity. Discrimination, whether based on race, religion or sexual

tion, whether based on race, religion or sexual preference, makes a farce of the concept of equal op-

ortunity. An American is an American is an American!

Jerry R. DeYoung San Francisco

Hypocritical Policy

The following letter was sent to U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.:

It was my pleasure to meet you at the DREDF luncheon this past week in San Francisco. Thank you for taking a few minutes to discuss the "gays in the military" issue with me. I am a civil rights litigator and served as the West Coast coordinator for the Cam-

and served as the West Coast coordinator for the Campaign for Military Service.

While I greatly appreciate your concern about the issue of competent gay men and lesbian women being unable to serve openly in the U.S. Armed Forces, I am perplexed by the policy of the U.S. Justice Department in appealing the decision of a U.S. District Court judge which held the military's ban on declared homosexuals to be unconstitutional. I am advised that Canada's gay military ban was ended by relying on a lower court ruling which held their ban unconstitutionstitutions their ban unconstitutions. a lower court ruling which held their ban unconstitu-

allower court ruing which held their ban unconstitutional.

When the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy was announced, I was greatly moved by President Clinton's speech espousing fair treatment of all Americans, regardless of their sexual orientation. I was disappointed with the actual policy itself, but I understood the threat he faced in Congress.

What I fail to understand and find hypocritical, reminiscent of Bush administration "double speak", is the policy of this administration "Jouble Department to appeal decisions which are consistent with its spoken word. I understand that within the past week the Clinton Justice Department has taken divergent paths from the Bush Justice Department in race-related discrimination civil rights cases. But I, and the members of the press that I speak with, are at a loss to understand why it has not taken a similar divergent path in the case of Meinhold v. U.S. Department of Defense.

You are greatly admired and respected by the

You are greatly admired and respected by the United States public on the whole, but especially in the gay and lesbian communities where you are perceived as a person who understands the pain of dis-crimination and speaks plainly. Please explain this ap-peal in light of the President's spoken desire to eliminate the ban altogether.

As an aside, I am hopeful that the Deputy Attorney General for civil rights will soon be nominated and

confirmed, as the gap in that area has already been

San Francisco



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Letters

Pepper, Promiscuity and Promotion

I'm writing in response to Rachel Pepper's last col-umn. You know the one, lesbians + cats = good; les-bians + sex = bad. It was drippingly sweet to read about her new-found domesticated bliss; bless her for creating some warmth in this cold, hard, cruel world. But I am offended by her anti-sex diatribe she so

casually attributes to not caring about being "fabulous" or "trendy" anymore. As co-owner of the Good Vibrations sex store cooperative, I deal with the fallout and survivors of a sex-negative society on a daily basis. Pepper's segue from Sister X's memorial to her thoughts on lesbian sex echo on some archaic Reagan-esque rhetoric that inextricably linked sex to

nen she goes on to define lesbian sex as a "fringe Then she goes on to define lesbian sex as a "fringe twilight world" where "twenty-one year old speed addicts" reign. Who has she been hanging out with I wonder? Every sex worker and everyone I know working in the sex industry are extremely intelligent, highly articulate individuals. None of them are drug addicts and I can't remember the last time I even met a 21-year old. It disappoints me to hear a lesbian voice catering to the Catherine MacKinnon/Andrea Dworkin school of thought, consciously or not.

We have lived long enough in the dark ages regarding sex in this country, hets and homos alike. It wasn't until this century that mental institutions stopped

until this century that mental institutions stopped castrating females to cure so-called ills, one of them being lesbianism; or how about nymphomania? Well, enough about that. Let's all lighten up a little. I've included our recent catalog in case Pepper's mood changes. Speaking for myself, I'd love to hear about sex! It helps make everything better.

Miss Tangent, Good Vibrations San Francisco

Ms. Pepper responds: As a frequent shopper at Good Vibrations, I was amused by Miss Tangent's assumptions about me based on my column, "Committ-mentality." The reality, of course, is that I have nothing but respect for Good Vibes, a wonderful sex positive, but respect for Good Vibes, a wonderful sex positive, dyke positive space. My intention in my column was not to infer that lesbians +sex=bad (gimme a break!), or appear anti-sex, or to link sex with death. Rather, the column reflected my own melancholy state of mind at the time of writing, nothing more, nothing less. Further, in my passing reference to lesbian sex clubs, I made no mention of lesbian sex workers, many of whom I know personally, and who I also have the highest respect for. As Miss Tangent herself says, "Let's all lighten up a little." Love, Rachel. Carol Queen rules! Commitment ≠ sex negativity.

Het Horrors at Halloween

Enclosed is a copy of a handout I received over the weekend calling for a public celebration of queer sex on Halloween to "scare the Hets." I have mixed emotions about this event. It pleases me to see us celebrate our sexuality but I doubt if the "Hets" will get the point. I suspect the reaction will be more of the "Look what the bad queers are doing now" garbage.

I recognize and share the frustration that must have increased his ways. Event was a horder of heteroys designed.

inspired this event. Every year, hordes of heteros des-cend on our Halloween party and by and large, most of them are not good guests. Many of us have ex-perienced the taunts and name calling; there's freperienced the taunts and name calling; there's frequently violence and bashings, and frankly, many of them are simply rude. The party has become less and less enjoyable with every year as the hetero presence has increased. What annoys me most is that while these folks are happy to party with us, where are they when it's time to provide food and shelter for PWAs or complain to Washington about discrimination? I'm not denigrating the sex celebration—I may participate myself. But I do think that there are better ways to remind the straights attending our party that

ways to remind the straights attending our party that they need to be good guests and better friends to our community if they want to party with us. The first is to post a letter in the San Francisco Chronicle and the San Francisco Examiner regarding Halloween. It should point out not only time and date, but also the should point out not only time and date, but also the fundraising aspect. Most important, it should remind straights who plan on attending that the event is not the place to display homophobia — bias and bigotry must be left at home. Encourage them to participate by coming in costume. Second, at each entrance point, let's have a petition stating support for gay rights or demanding a tax cut for queers in compensation for limitations placed on our rights, signature required for admission to the party.

The point is to remind everyone who attends that if we're good enough to party with, we're good enough

if we're good enough to party with, we're good enough to have the same rights as straights. Thirdly, people in elaborate costumes who frequently are photographed by our guests could charge a \$1.00 donation to AIDS charities per picture. No donation, no picture. Again, the point is not to be mean, but to remind those

Again, the point is not to be mean, but to remind those who are not of our community that they need to participate in our struggles as well as our fun.

The Halloween party can be an event that brings us together with the straight community, but we shouldn't let them take advantage of us. When they are our guests, we can expect them to behave as such, when they want to enjoy the benefits of our friendship they can share the struggles as well. Or stay home.

Darr Sandberg San Francisco

Het Hate in a Beige Truck

It is sad, but hate crimes and unprovoked acts of violence perpetuated against people just because they are different (i.e., race, creed, color or sexual orientation), can exist even in the peaceful surroundings of gay resort such as Guerneville.

On Monday night, Aug. 23, a friend and I were walking up the driveway toward The Highlands Inn, the resort where we were staying. A beige truck carrying two men and two women was coming down the narrow road and they stopped alongside us. They appeared friendly enough at first, asking us for directions and whether we were from that area.

Suddenly, things turned rather nasty. They all began to verbally attack us ("Are you faggots?!?"," as

began to verbally attack us ("Are you faggots?!?," as well as more profane suggestions). Before I had time to react, the driver had punched me in the face! I was absolutely dumbfounded.

My friend grabbed my arm and began pulling me up the road. Once we reached the foot of the resort's driveway, I thought we were safe. Except, when we directly toward us. I was thinking: This is crazy!

Before we knew it, they came up onto the property

and the two guys jumped out of the truck and proceeded to physically attack us. It had become an insane free-for-all there on the gravel. I could not believe it.

The women who remained in the truck were no longer laughing and belittling us; now they were just screaming. As quickly as it had begun the guys scrambled back into the truck and drove away. They obviously were experiencing some pain due to my friends' boots having smashed into both their faces a

A local resident must have heard all the commotion and alerted the police who arrived with an ambulance less than two minutes after the truck had sped off. Thank you to whomever you are as well as those men in uniform for their immediate response

Unfortunately, all we were able to do was give a description of the truck and its occupants. Too bad we were unable to furnish a license plate number, but that's not necessarily what crosses your mind when you suddenly find yourself running for your life. It also didn't help that the lighting up the road and onto the driveway to the Highlands Inn was very, very poor.

I'm a 31-year old gay male living with AIDS, trying my best to survive on disability. I have enough problems of my own without having to deal with the ignorance and hate from people such as this. My friend and I were blessed to have gotten away with only some cuts, bumps and bruises. There are those who aren't so fortunate. How many acts of this senseless violence go unreported each year? Chances are that these people will not ever be caught. That is are that these people will not ever be caught. That is why I'm telling you what happened as well as advis-ing you to be very careful. Gay bashing or any other unprovoked act of violence cannot be a silent crime.

Len Tahsuda

Disdains Oueer Bullies

Some queer Americans demand civil liberties for themselves, yet illogically and offensively are only too willing to deny constitutionally-protected rights, especially the rights of those Americans who are convinced in their minds that the Bible must be read

Most Christian denominations consider Biblican Most Cristian denominations consider Biolician literalism leads to an oversimplified and erroneous distortion of both the Hebrew and Christian testaments of the bible. Yet, these Biblican literalists must be protected in their fundamentally erroneous interpretation of scriptures because the U.S. Constitution protects this crucially important freedom of

religion.

When queer activists show up interrupting demonstrations at or outside of religious services as they did recently at Hamilton Square Baptist Church in San Francisco, they demonstrate to many gay and non-gay persons a disregard for the constitutional right of Biblical literalist Christians to interpret the Bible in an erroneous and utterly stupid manner.

We queer Americans need to respect the faulty approach these people take to the Bible. Far too much time is wasted on them. Most members don't agree with the Biblical literalists anyway, and they never will.

Many Americans of good will see these shouting gay activists at or outside of religious services as essentially anti-religious bullies. Throwing condoms at newly-ordained priests at Boston's Cathedral of the Holy Cross and other violence by these "queer bullies" turns countless Americans of good will against the necessary openness-of-mind needed to understand in-

tellectually the social justice of gay liberation. We queers need to reject bulliness for the far more productive activity of presenting clearly thought-out and reasonable arguments for the extension of civil liberties to gay Americans as a demand of social chari-ty and justice.

James F. Gibbons

Don't Vouch For Hate

n the event you haven't already made up your mind about Proposition 174, the so-called "vouch-174, the so-cated voicher" initiative appearing on the November statewide election ballot, let me give you a couple of clues as to why you should be voting NO on the latest christian Right scheme to take over California latest christian Right scheme to take over California schools. Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition recently donated \$100,000 for the provoucher effort to be used in television and radio ads; Robertson's group is also quietly sponsoring a series of \$50-a-plate banquets to raise the bucks to produce more

\$50-a-plate banquets to raise the bucks to produce more than four million "voter guides" to back 174.

The anti-gay Reverend Lou Sheldon's Traditional Values Coalition is distributing more than half a million pro-Proposition 174 guides to California churches. Another christian right group, Citizens in Excellence in Education, is sending thousands of letters

in Excellence in Education, is sending thousands of letters to its members, asking them to "pray that we get finances in time to send (pro-voucher) mailings to all our 27,000 California churches," and urging its members to mail money immediately for that purpose.

One christian right backer of Proposition 174 publicly stated that "America was considered a Christian nation, and we were gracious enough to let other people come here as our guests. We should not let public schools say you can be neutral about religion," meaning, of course, that such things as prayer in public schools must be allowed.

Such sentiments have

Such sentiments have prompted thousands of christian conservatives like Sheldon and Robertson to embrace Proposition 174, which

Commentary

advocates and critics both call one of the more radical plans ever directed at the state's ever directed at the state's 1,006 public school districts. The christian right, long wanting to take over public education in California as well as other states (christian conservatives already have started similar voucher movements nationwide and have targeted over 20 other states in an effort to gain control of targeted over 20 other states in an effort to gain control of public school systems) and they see Proposition 174 as just the vehicle they have been waiting for.

If passed, Prop 174 would amend the state constitution, and give parents a voucher worth about \$2,600 annually that they could spend on pri-

world about \$2,000 annuary that they could spend on private or parochial school tuition, if they take their children out of public schools; it also would enable individuals also would enable individuals who are "capable of teaching" to cash the vouchers and start their own schools. One provoucher leader, a well-known member of the christian right, readily admitted to reporters last week that "Proposition 174 is just the vehicle we need for the religious community to destroy public educations." nity to destroy public educa-tion and take back the sys-tem," adding that "we're becoming a very strong force;



The Terminator proves no match for the canny DiFi in this artist's rendering of a possible '94 matchup

the pro-family movement is rising up and taking back the schools is a very important part of this."

schools is a very important part of this."

Lou Sheldon and Pat Robertson raising mega-bucks for Proposition 174: need any further reason to get out November 2nd and vote NO on 174? Robertson, attending the Christian Coalition's "Road to Victory" conference in September himself stood on stage and held up a copy of his publication "Christian American." Printed on the front page was a map depicting states that have pending voucher legislation like Proposition 174 and school choice initiatives on their ballots. Above the picture of the colorful map was a huge headline that read "School Choice Sweeps America," proudly boasting that the christian right would, state by state, eventually take control of the nation's schools. Say NO to Pat Robertson, Lou Sheldon, and their homophobic right-wing allies; vote NO on Proposition 174.

People and politics

Gay and lesbian supporters of Supervisor Kevin Shelley are holding a fundraiser/reception for him next Wednesday (October 27, 6-8 pm) at 446 Roosevelt Way; \$25 - \$100 donation; 241-5533 for info.

Doris Duke, the tobacco heiress and the daughter of Duke University's founder, last week donated \$2 million to the school for AIDS re-

last week donated \$2 million to the school for AIDS research; Duke is one of the 20 national AIDS research centers and the central site for vaccine trials. Only two weeks ago, Duke, commenting that she has "mourned the loss of far too many of my friends," donated yet another \$1 million to the Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation.

Hasta la vista, Arnie — this one has made the rumor mill

one has made the rumor mill before, but Republican polit-ical operatives in Sacramento ical operatives in Sacramento were putting out the word that Hollywood superstar muscleman Arnold Schwarzenegger is "seriously" thinking of taking on millionaire Congressman Michael Huffington in next year's GOP senate primary for the right to face Senator Dianne Feinstein in the November general election; even those in the Democratic Kennedy clan (Schwarzenegger is married to Ted Kennedy's niece) say that "Arnie is a great guy to 'led Kennedy's niece) say
that "Arnie is a great guy—
and he definitely has been bitten by the political bug," (Dianne versus Arnold? Now
that would be a glamour
high-profile campaign to
match any presidential race.)
Although he's not given
much chance to win, computer programmer Brian Bowen.

rer programmer Brian Bowen, 26, is running in next month's Houston mayoral race as an openly gay candidate, and is

said to be picking up support and winning a lot of friends; GOP incumbent Bob Lanier is said to be a heavy favorite

is said to be a heavy favorite to win re-election.
And in NYC, Republican mayoral candidate Rudolph Giuliani has been leading incumbent Democrat David Dinkins (thanks to help from a number of gay and lesbian activists) throughout most of the campaign, but Dinkins, a strong supporter of gay strong supporter of gay rights, seems to be winning back most of his gay/lesbian base and is now considered the favorite for re-election. Smart kids: in Boston, hun-

dreds of teens rallied at the Statehouse last week in sup-port of a bill that adds sexual orientation to a law that bans bias in schools on the basis of race, religion, sex and nation-

race, rengion, sex and national origin.

Stupid adults: in Wilkinsburg, Pennsylvania, last week, four women were facing charges they sexually assaulted a transvestite and beat him with a whip; police said the women were angry he didn't reveal his true gender

didn't reveal his true gender to a mutual friend.

Speaker Willie Brown and ace political consultant Jack Davis huddling at lunch last Tuesday at Bardelli's; even the waiters were wondering what that one was all about.

Saying "in light of tight budget constraints," and pointing out that state work-

pointing out that state workers already have 13 paid holidays, Governor Pete Wilson idays, Governor Pete Wilson last week vetoed legislation that would have created a holiday honoring the late labor leader and civil rights activist, Cesar Chavez.

I don't live in the 11th state senate district (the peninsula) but if I did, I probably would vote for Tom Camphell even though be is

ably would vote for Tom Campbell, even though he is a Republican.

Nearly 2,500 participants (including hometown actress Ali MacGraw) walked in the recent AIDS Walk Santa Fe and raised \$167,000 for groups in that city fighting the disease.

Just when President Clim-

Just when President Clinton's highly-touted domestic policy blitz — you know, the one that climaxed with the unveiling of his healthcare reunveiling of his healthcare reform plan — was bringing the White House high marks with the voters, Clinton's latest foreign affairs problems (never the President's strong suit) brought his rating right back down again; a USA Today/CNN/Gallup Poll taken over the weekend (in the aftermath of continued problems in Somalia and Haiti) show the President's overall job approval slipping to 50 percent proval slipping to 50 percent from 56 percent only two

weeks ago.

And the latest of many silly bumperstickers: "Re-Elect Clinton (and her runningmate, too)." ▼

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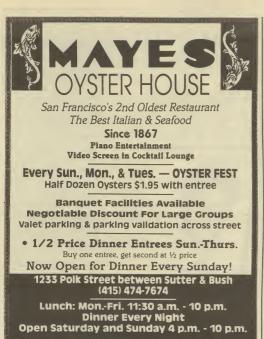
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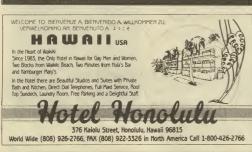
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Dykeotomy

The Feminist Mystique

by Nancy Boutilier

t this year's annual gay and lesbian writers conference, Out-Write '93, I was struck by how many women speak-ing made the effort to define themselves as feminists. Admittedly, feminism has been taking a beating lately, as if one has to confess to being a

one has to comes to being a feminist, or come out of the closet. Feminism is the F-word of the '90s.
"Hi my name is Jewelle, and I'm a lesbian feminist," quipped Jewelle Gomez in her ped Jewelle Gomez in her keynote address. But she wasn't kidding. She proudly proclaimed her lesbian femi-nist roots. She spoke about the need for people to ac-knowledge the political di-mensions of their words and actions. And, yes, it made my heart sing to hear Gomez de-clare her allegiance to femi-nism.

Feminism, of course, means many things to many people. A pair of Tshirts of-fer two remarkably contrast-ing views: one proclaims the ing views: one proclaims the revived slogan that feminism is "the radical notion that women are people," while the other offers Pat Robertson's observation that feminism "is about a socialist, anti-family, political movement that encourages women to leave their husbands, kill their children, practice witchcraft, de-stroy capitalism and become lesbians.

There has always been a mystique surrounding feminism—a mystique that breeds

nism—a mystique that oreeds not only pride, but also fear. Some people still use it as a euphemism for lesbian, and that certainly shows in the young women I see in my high school classroom. They say they believe in equal pay for equal work, and in equal

opportunity, but surely, they insist, they are not feminists. Feminism has a long histo-ry of being equated with a rigidness of thought, a party

line.

The most recent incarnation of discrediting feminism as rigid and unthinking is in its association with the phrase "political correctness." Socalled political correctness connotes a blindness to dogma—not that anyone has ever taken the time and energy to identify the tenets of that dogma. There is a certain bravaidentify the tenets of that dog ma. There is a certain brave do with which many people assert their political incorrect-ness, as if the defiance of one

Commentary

dogma suggest independent thought. I know because I have used the phrase "politi-cal incorrectness" with the self-righteousness of an inde-

self-righteousness of an inde-pendent thinker myself.

But, I don't think I will again. During her keynote ad-dress at OutWrite '93, Chrys-tos challenged me to think once again about the source and intent of that phrases and and intent of that phrases. We face dangerous phrases and words which must be deconstructed," said Chrystos. "The concept of 'political correctness' has been abused until our natural understanding of instice has been lost in embarour natural understanding of justice has been lost in embar-rassment. We know that dis-crimination and abuse are morally wrong, but the ruling corporations find it inconve-nient for us to have a con-science and set about to destroy our common sense with glitzy advertising, lies, mock-

ery, and cooptation."

The need to dismiss feminism is the need of those who wish to preserve the status quo — in the mainstream com-munity as well as the lesbian and gay community. Nobody who accepts a dogma blindly is an independent thinker, to

is an independent thinker, to be sure, but nobody who rejects one blindly is either.

The charge of "political correctness" is an argument with all the substance of name-calling. It is a wonderful way to shut people up. Ironically, those who slap the label of "PCC" on others are often the ones who are asserting the ones who are asserting

that feminists are trying to sti-

fle debate.

"Because we don't agree with the mythos of what little girls and little boys are made of, we are dangerous to the status quo," said Chrystos in her address. "I believe it's very silly to want to be accepted by the so-called main-stream. I think they need to be accepted by us. They have a long, hard job ahead of them." them

And if we accept the lan-guage of those who prefer the status quo to change, if we latch on to the labels they use latch on to the labels they use to silence voices of conscience, if we shut down dialogue with the curse of politically "correct" or "incorrect," then we cheat ourselves of important, substantive debate.

What excited me most about Gomez's address was not so much her identification with feminism, but, rather.

with feminism, but, rather, her definition of it. Hers was a definition which seemed to acknowledge the inequities in the world, to insist upon the interconnectedness of all peo-ple, and to call for action against inequities.

In retrospect, calling her beliefs "correct" or "incorrect" hardly seems relevant. But they certainly are political. And she had the courage to stand up and proclaim those

Gomez never asserted that hers is not the only definition of feminism. In fact, she never offered a definition at all. But, since she said that her writing is informed by her feminism, I have done my best to extract a definition from her address. Perhaps I am projecting my own defini-tion onto her. No matter, the point here is that we need to foster debate rather than smother it. Ultimately, our actions, not the labels, that will identify us.

For now, we need to avoid bandwagons — both of the blind acceptance of ideas and blind acceptance of ideas and the blind dismissal of them. We need to move past what is "correct" and "incorrect" to thoughtfully consider the ramifications of our words and our actions. Only then will we have a shot at changing the world.



Joan Sings Out

Folk icon Joan Baez sings ''Many Rivers to Cross'' at AIDS Walk '93 this past Sunday. On her right is her cousin, Peter (Photo: Carmine Castro)

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Q: How Important is Susan Leal? A: Very.

Newest Supervisor Named One of 100 Most Influential Hispanics

by Dennis Conkin

Latina lesbian and San Francisco Supervisor Susan Leal has been named one of the 100 most influential Hispanics in the United States by Hispanic Business Magazine in its October issue.

Leal, 44, was appointed to the board in June to replace Roberta Achtenberg, who ac-cepted an appointment with the Clinton Administration. Leal is the first Latina ever to serve in the post.

An attorney, Leal previously served as Counsel to the California State Legislature's Way and Means Committee and as counsel to a House investigations committee in Washington. She is currently a vice president of Health Care Compare, a health care cost management firm.

"I'm really kind of shocked and surprised," Leal told the and surprised, Lear told the Bay Area Reporter. "But I am really proud of this recognition by Hispanic Business Magazine. I believe it is as much a recognition of the growing Latino influence, as it is for my appointment. I remain strongly committed to using this influence on behalf of the issues and concerns of our community."



Popular SF supervisor and Latina lesbian Susan Leal was recognized by Hispanic Business Magazine.

(Photo: Judi Parks)

Leal told the B.A.R. that the honor is important be-cause it helps her advocate about lesbian and gay issues within the Latino community

more effectively.
"That's really important.
When I'm at meetings with Latino business leaders, one of the things I always talk about is that I am a lesbian," Leal said. "If the lesbian and gay community intends to remain viable, to be a force of the '90s and the 21st century, we've got to look at the fact that 30 percent of the population will be Latino."

Also named in the annual profile was Superintendent of the San Francisco Unified School District Bill Rojas, who oversees a 63,000-student school district

In addition to Leal and Rojas, the only other San Fran-ciscan named by the magazine was Gary Gutierrez, co-founder of Colossal Pictures. The magazine profiled the 100 most influential Hispanics

after a review of hundreds of nominations from readers.

Included in the annual list are HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros; former SFSUD Su-perintendent Ramon Cortines, now head of the NY Public School System; Daisy Fuentes, host of MTV Internacional; and Carlos Perez, President of the American Association of Hispanic CPAs.



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California News



Dude Descending a Staircase

Former California Governor and political maverick Jerry Brown spoke last week at a fundraiser for Yes on X, a city proposition that would prohibit officeholder slush funds.

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Wilson's Hate Crime **Great New Daily Menu Vetoes Draw Criticism**

by Samuel R. Cacas

Governor Pete Wilson's third annual veto of a legisla-tive proposal on hate crimes tive proposal on hate crimes has drawn criticism from community groups and elected officials. Once again, the governor vetoed the California School Hate Violence Reduction Act (A.B. 1299) after the legislature passed it.

The measure would have established a privately funded commission to examine the

commission to examine the K-12 Social Science Frame-work curriculum, and identify how conflict resolution and issues reflecting California's di-versity could be better inte-grated into elementary and

grated into elementary and secondary school education. It also proposed to require schools to report hate violence incidents.

In his October 8 veto message, Wilson stated, "The State Board of Education has primary responsibility for development of curricula to invest our children with understanding and respect for California's diversity and multiculturalism. To that end the State Board is well along in its efforts to implement legisits efforts to implement legislation I have signed this year and last, which would incor-porate specific consideration of civil rights, genocide, and the Holocaust in the curricu-

the Holocaust in the curricu-lum frameworks and model curriculum.
"In addition, the State Board of Education has al-ready adopted a comprehen-sive policy statement on school safety, which speaks to creating a school environment free from discrimination and hate violence. The author's hate violence. The author's good intention would have the undesired effect of slowing rather than advancing the work of the Board."

That statement immediate-I nat statement immediate rebuke from the bill's sponsor, Assemblywoman Barbara Lee (D-Oakland), who said she "was absolutely shocked" by Wilson's action, "especially in light of the frightening reach of hate crimes that has recently victimized Sacramento.

"Governor Wilson is quick to publicly condemn those who commit hate crimes," Lee told the B.A.R. "But he refuses to take decisive action



State Senator Diane Watson

to address the problem. Slap-ping them on the hand and

ping them on the hand and calling them cowards is not going to put an end to the violence," she added. In an October 18 letter to the governor concerning the veto, Lee was even more critical, calling the veto message "fraught with flawed reasoning and lacking in cufficient evolution. in sufficient explanation. De-spite all of the evidence to the contrary, you continue to in-sist that existing law and cur-rent school curriculum is suf-ficient to handle the prob-

As an example, Lee noted that Wilson's argument at AB 1299's "effect of slowing rather than advancing the work of the Board of Education" is "rather puzzling" because the agency supported the bill in writing.

Community leaders active against hate violence were equally critical. Lester Olmstead-Rose, executive director for the Community United Against Violence in San Francisco, told the B.A.R., "most

Against violence in San Tran-cisco, told the BAR, "most hate incidents come from youth, so getting information from schools about incidents is important. And until we know where incidents are occurring, we won't know the extent of the problem. Also, school environments need to be free from hate in order for kids to better learn. The veto means that we won't have the asic tool to identify the problem."
"I think he should have

signed the legislation," said Richard Kouda, executive director of the Asian Law Alliance in San Jose, who added, "this is a time to stand strong on this issue."

(Continued on page 27)

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They'll Tumble For You: The Bay Area Raw Rahs

by Doug Seto

Several muscular men surround a handsome teenage

round a handsome teenage male.

A hand slides under the youth's shoulder. Another wraps around his thigh.
"You're not letting go of the thigh," the leader says gently. "You want your legs in the best position."
The men are attentive.
"It feels natural. You don't have to think about it. Now, use your legs and explode!"

use your legs and explode!"

The men count off, "Onetwo-three.

They use their arms to pitch the teenager upwards, and to catch him as he comes

and to catch him as he comes back down again. The instructor isn't satis-fied. "Push off with your legs. Feel yourself stretch as you fly up!" The men sound off. The

youth rockets upward with his legs wide apart. He lands in a cushion of sweaty hands. And that is the way the Bay Area Raw Rahs play.

After 13 years of appearing at gay Bay Area events, the Raw Rahs have become a community institution. Most people would probably describe them as cheerleaders, but that isn't exactly right, conjuring up as it does images of men in pleated skirts. The Raw Rahs are serious athletes of a dynamic, unique, and of a dynamic, unique, and

very physically demanding sport that combines cheer-leading and precision dance. They don't wear drag.

They don't wear drag.

They are more appropriately known as a "Stunt Team." Their sport is growing and NFL teams such as the L.A. Rams and the Atlanta Falcons utilize male stunt teams to rally support and encouragement.

The only difference is, "the stunters wu see in the college."

stunters you see in the college bowls and Monday night football don't use pom-poms. We do," one Raw Rah told the Bay Area Reporter.

Bay Area Reporter.

"The crowd loves it when we pull out the pom-poms. We are guys with pom-poms," says another, "many people have no idea that what we do

have no idea that what we do requires three to four practices a week."

The practice pays off: the Raw Rahs are masters of dance, who execute partner lifts and human pyramids with an excellence of execution. They have become a favorite sight at sporting events, variety shows, community festivals, fundraisers, parades. fundraisers, parades, and picnics

The Raw Rah Story

The Bay Area Raw Rahs was started by Guy Andrade, an instructor who coached high school cheerleading squads in Hayward.

"Why not start an an adult cheerleading team composed."

cheerleading team composed

of gay men?" he thought. And

so he did.

The group started practicing in 1980 and burst onto the scene in that year's San Francisco Freedom Day Parade.

Accomplishments since

then have included:

•SF Pride Parade marching movement unit trophies;

•A San Jose Pride celebration best marching unit award; and

•A United Spirit Associa-

tion summer camp team uni-

tion summer camp team uni-ty award.
Still going strong, the Raw Rahs are always on the look-out for new members: "Peo-

out for new members: "Peo-ple with enthusiasm, desire, commitment — and nice legs," one current member jokes. Steve Burke, the senior member of the Raw-Rahs, says he sees the team as a group of special ambassadors for the gay community. Burke has performed with Raw Rahs for five years, and

Raw Rahs for five years, and has been captain for four. His experience includes six years of coaching high school cheer-leading. He has also, with a partner, won five titles in ballroom dance.

Off to New York

"We exist to support athletic teams," he said, explaining that the Raw Rahs are now raising funds so they can support Team San Francisco at the Gay Games IV in New York City next June. The



Trust is one of the requirements necessary to be a member of the high-flying Bay Area Raw Rahs. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

team is already at work on a routine for those audiences, choreographed by Morgan Craig. Craig's accomplish-ments include performing dance in two consecutive

Miss California pageants and competing in dance on *Star Search*. He is also in charge of new recruits, and can be reached at (415) 431-3247. ▼

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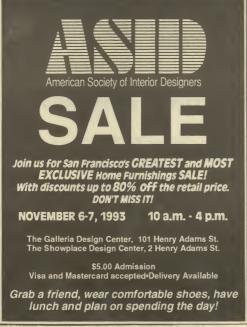
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Community News

Having Our Babies

Lyon-Martin Helps Lesbians and Gays Get Familial

by Jim Provenzano

So, you want to get domestic? You want to settle down and start a family with your partner and lifetime lover? You want somebody who will really appreciate your old Barbie dolls?

You want to actually ...

where do you go for help?
The Lyon-Martin Women's
Services Center, of course,
which offers more comprewhich offers more comprehensive advice, workshops, and counseling for gay and lesbian parents than any other such facility in the Bay

Terry Greenblatt, coordinator of the program, told the Bay Area Reporter that Lyon-Martin has been cosponsoring such programs for five years, and developed its own in-house program over a

year ago.

And it's busy. From January to September of this year, 1,058 individuals have used Lyon-Martin's program for a service, either through a seminar or for counseling, information, and referrals. formation, and referrals. Whether they're interested in insemination or adoption, the Center offers referrals for

Although Lyon-Martin does not offer specific legal advice, insemination, or adop-

advice, insemination, or adoption services, it is fully equipped to offer referrals to gay-friendly organizations.

"The first step seems to be that people are interested in attending the seven-week series;" Greenblatt told the B.A.R. "It's like a school atmosphere. Meeting other individuals is an empowering providuals is an empowering providuals is an empowering providuals is an empowering pro-

For gay parents, or those ron gay patents, of these considering parenting, the next step is to join a support group, especially if they have too few friends with children. There are separate men's and women's groups, each dealing

women's groups, each dealing with their own concerns over the parenting issue.

"Our choosing children seminar is our most popular program for lesbians, gays, and bisexuals interested in becoming parents," said Cynthia Chan, whose work with the parenting project has the parenting project has helped it grow in numbers of clients served. The seminar includes a variety of speakers: not only members of gay fam-ilies, but professionals in the field as well. Matters such as insemination, adoption, and legal issues are thoroughly

examined.

Chan sees this as a great opportunity to start "creating multicultural families. Lesbians and gays are creating

bians and gays are creating families together."

The panels are popular and always sold out. "We only do it twice a year," said Chan. "We're expanding, but it's hard because we're very limited economically." It is highly recommend that people pre-register.

Why the tremendous Why the tremendous growth in queer clans? "Families are more out now," said Chan. "They see within our community that lesbians, gays, and bisexuals are parenting together. They feel like there are more role models. They feel that they can do it. There isn't that thought that they can't do it. We're trying to disnel that myth that trying to dispel that myth that



Lyon-Martin Parenting Program's Cynthia Chan: "There have always been lesbian and gay parents. We're trying to dispel the myth that we can't.

we can't. There have always been gay and lesbian parents. We want to educate in a positive light."

More and more frequently these days, gay families are being specifically created, instead of being hold-overs from previous straight relationships, through insemina-tion and sperm banks — and even the occasional biological insemination.

"Someone may be looking for a partner, to create a sort of alternative family," Greenblatt said.
What helps is Lyon-Mar-

tin's access to such potential parents, to more doctors who will inseminate lesbians, and will inseminate lesbians, and to private services that will allow adoptions by gays. "There are more and more second parent adoptions across the country," Chan said. And despite the disappointing news of the recent court decision to revoke parental rights to Virginia lesbian Sharon Bottoms because of her sexuality, Chan is not too discouraged. "It's one state that's extremely homophobic in their laws," she said. "They're very backward."

Chan is not surprised, she

Chan is not surprised, she said, that more lesbians and gay men are interested in

gay men are interested in raising families.
"I think some people always know that they want to be parents," said Chan. "They may not be acting on it, because they feel they don't have the support. They may not see a lot of kids around them." Which is part of the reason for the workshops, to let prospective parents know let prospective parents know that, in between feedings and preschool and PTA, there is a network of support

"A lot of that is through connecting with other fami-lies," she said. "It takes work and it takes some form of cre-

and it takes some form of creativity, as well as patience. Creating a non-traditional family takes longer.

"It's work trying to look for the right donor, in terms of adoption, as well as an agency. There's more red tape if the people are homophobic. Working against the system is still possible."

And with custody battles for lesbians, gays, and even

lesbians, gays, and even straights making headlines, it is appropriate that among the crucial matters covered with-in the sessions are the legal

in the sessions are the legal aspects.

"For our legal issues panel we like to get people thinking about certain documents," Chan told the B.A.R. "It gets them thinking. You need to think about how you're gonna plan this. There are other things that come up, like homophobia at schools. When people start getting into the mode of 'What are the options? Who can help me?', then they are ready to prepare themselves for what might happen later. They have to educate themselves before the kids arrive."

And when they do, the dynamic of a couple changes drastically. "They'll hear what kinds of issues come up between couples, how their lives will be affected. They

kinds of issues come up be-tween couples, how their lives will be affected. They don't realize that they're gonna get really tired, have limited quality time with a lover. We get people on a re-ality mode."

Chan speaks from experi-ence. With a ten-year-old son already forming distinct opin-ions about school clothes and

(Continued on page 25)

Community News



''All I want for Christmas is my two front teeth!'' LGPA's Kim Lawton with her daughter Abby, 7, showing off her missing front tooth.

Lesbian, Gay Parents Discuss Coming Out at Their Kids' Schools

by Nancy Boutilier

"If you've come out at your child's school, how do you think this has affected your

"If you haven't come out at your child's school, how do you think this has affected your child?"

These were just two of the

These were just two of the many questions up for discussion at a workshop sponsored by the Lesbian and Gay Parents Association (LGPA) called "Out of the Closet, Into the Classroom?" Formed in August of 1992, LGPA decided to take up the issue of coming out in the classroom as a result of concern over the issue at an open forum for issue at an open forum for lesbian and gay parents held

last year.
Parents, children, teachers, school administrators, and service providers — more than service providers — more than 50 people in all — gathered at Eureka Valley Recreation Center on Saturday, October 16, for the day-long program. As the question mark in the title suggests, the workshop was designed to bring the question of coming out to a forum for discussion. And, like so many questions, this one seemed to bring more questions before yielding any easy answers. The series of panels and small group discussions allowed participants in the workshop to address the fears, anxieties, drawbacks, and benefits that face lesbian, gay, and bisexual parbacks, and benefits that face lesbian, gay, and bisexual par-ents — and their children — around the issue of coming out in their children's school communities.

Confidentiality rules

With ground rules estab-lished around confidentiality and respect for differences of opinion, the forum provided a safe space for honest and open discussion. The confi-dentiality guideline, while making for difficult news re-porting, opened the door for participants to address per-sonal dilemmas. In the end, the program made room for

the program made room for both disclosure and discovery. An overview of the issues, presented by Kim Lawton of the LGPA, explored the ways that heterosexism forces les-bian, gay, and bisexual parents to "fight to be in the schools at all." Straight families "don't have to fight for good representation," said Lawton. While the traditional nuclear family is over-represented in school curricula and those images are positively slanted, gay families must actively work against invisibility and the negative portrayal

of their existence

A brainstorming session allowed participants to air their concerns, which included the way a parent's need to be out often seemed to conflict with a child's desire to control that information in the school set-ting. Some parents who are out in their children's schools

(Continued on page 25)

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Community News

Straight Teacher, Gay Son

Little did Rod Liner suspect when he was in college, and knew that the two guys living in the next dorm room were gay, that one day his son would have the same orientation. After all, he was a varsity football player at Claremont with the daunting nickname of "Scrap Iron." Even less predictable: that his son's sexuality would be the son's sexuality would be the impetus for Liner, now a high school teacher, to develop a special unit within the minorities education program that would get his students to address the subject of homosex-

But that's just what has

happened.
Liner first addressed homosexuality in his classroom in a special "school within a school" of 150 students at the School of 130 students at the former San Carlos High in San Mateo County. For those students, a bike trip to the ocean beach might integrate physical education class (for the ride itself), biology (for studying the marine life on the shore), and English (for essays on the whole experi-ence): all in all, an advanced and sophisticated approach to

and sopment academia. Within this context, Liner Counced Luh-NEAR) originated a course in contemporary sociology called Con troversial Issues to address well, controversial issues. In-struction was most often provided by guest speakers and

panels talking about first hand experiences, including groups like the Black Panthers and authorities such as the warden of San Quentin prison. But one speaker, an openly gay Stanford Universi-ty student, went farther than even this daring teacher ex-pected. pected.

The student, whom Liner invited to class to discuss being gay as a social minority, began with this bombshell: "My name is Joe Roberts and I suck cock." But then Roberts helped students recover from their shock by doing a careful historical ac-count of gayness as a sexual orientation

Unfortunately, a student who didn't belong in the class but who was there playing hookie from his own studies, took a report back her moth-

took a report back her mother, who bounced it to the Sequoia District administration, and it all reverberated back to Liner. He was quizzed by his principal, who established that rules for speakers had indeed been followed and put an end to the proceedings.

Although Liner was somewhat taken aback by these events, he was by no means discouraged from his controversial issues efforts and later invited other gay notables, such as openly gay Reverend Bill Johnson, to address the class. But Liner was cautious thenceforth. thenceforth.

The fourth stage

Now, Liner thinks of this period as the fourth in a clear succession of stages of his consciousness about homosexuality. When he was a preteen, he told the Bay Area Reporter, he had a somewhat giggly wonder of why people would be like "that." In high school, because it didn't affect him, he didn't even consider it. In college, while the gay guys next door in his dorm prompted some humorous scoffing, they aroused no real homophobia, so Liner had a mostly neutral attitude.

After he married his wife Patty, an artist and teacher, and they had a family, there seemed to be no possibility that homosexuality would be an important part of his life. However, their first-born son Danny changed that one day when he was 16: he wrote two letters, one to his father and one to his mother, and asked each to read his or hers in separate rooms, and then come back to talk about what he told them on paper.

The letters contained his coming out to the two people he loved most, and both were heavily affected. His mother cried — copiously. Fortunately, Liner reacted with an immediate declaration of love and support for his son real. and support for his son, real-izing that Danny needed that very much. But both parents acknowledge, like so many of

the other parents they have met in groups like Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, that this revelation was "like a death." And while they agree now that it has become a cliché, the child's coming out of the closet was soon. ing out of the closet was soon followed by their entering one.

Nevertheless, the realiza-tion that Dan was still the son they had always loved — and more importantly, that he had been brave enough to be com-

pletely honest with them — emboldened them.

Liner confided in some of his closest friends, one of whom was a fellow teacher who said he had known about Dan's sexuality for some time, because the boy had re-vealed his gayness in the required journals in a class the friend taught.

A succession of other such A succession of other such acceptances bolstered the confidence of Rod and Pat, but they thought one further step was advisable. They brought their son to a psychiatrist, who, after consultation with who, after consultation with Dan for some time, emerged to tell the parents that their son "was the most 'together' teenager he had ever known." Dan, who had understood

since the age of eight that he was gay, was also a very honest and forthright guy who was the president of his various classes and then of the entire student body, went to the usual proms with cute girls, had loads of friends, and was on the swimming team.

Meanwhile, at Sequoia...

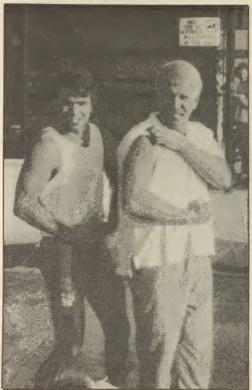
While these events were occurring, Liner was in a dif-

The Liner's realization
that Dan was
still the son
they had
always loved
—and more importantly, that he had been brave enough to be completely honest with them emboldened

ferent school, San Carlos High having been closed. At Sequoia High, in Redwood City, the social studies department had developed a segment of the U.S. History course in the 11th Grade, in which a nine-week unit called American Foundations explored the contributions of minorities. Black, Mexican, Japanese, and Chinese cultures and their relations with the white majority culture the white majority culture were explained.

But then a female colleague suggested that a part of the nine-week unit be devoted to women and feminism. That was accepted, and Rod was inspired to promote another on gay youth, with special attention paid to how gay boys and lesbian girls felt about the rejection and dis-crimination they experienced. Once more, key presenters were brought in, such as Gina Gutierrez, whose story was included in the video Gay Youth, produced by Pam Walton, who had taught at Woodslide High, a sister Woodside High, school to Sequoia

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Father and son: Hunky teacher and PFLAG member Rod Liner (right) flexes with his gay — and equally hunky — offspring Dan.

This session was in an expanded room with 400 juniors attending. The panel was rep-resentative of gay kids of

both sexes. But here, Liner made another slight misstep: he invited any interested par-ents to attend. One of the attendees was a great cowboy type of 6' 6" — presumably a father — who brought a video camera with him.

Liner told him at once that be could not photograph the class, but the man stood his ground. The principal was summoned, the prohibition was repeated, and the police were called. The lens was capped, eventually, but Liner is certain that an audiotape of the class was captured by the machine.

The ironic effect, however,

was that in the ensuing ugliness, and what Liner calls the "Oprah" atmosphere of namecalling and the like, the large class turned against their would-be critic and a decidedly pro-gay atmosphere was produced.

Unfortunately, there was some hangover of criticism, with Liner accused of organizing the class as a self-justi-fication as a father of a gay son. But again the rebound effect was that Liner became a kind of heterosexual hero for gav people and was thus re gay people and was thus re-garded throughout the school, especially by the faculty. The prevailing feeling became "If Rod Liner's kid is gay, it must be okay."

Liner would like to see similar units operate at the district's other high schools: Carlmont, Woodside, and Menlo-Atherton. One sign that such development has a chance came last February, when Walton's Gay Youth was shown at a teacher institute at Woodside, with the

filmmaker there to make comments. Many of the teachers she spoke with there were colleagues with whom she had worked before she started her new career. District Superintendent Merle Freubling gave the presentation. ling gave the presentation a ringing endorsement.

Very little opposition

With all this more or less public development, has there been any significant opposi-tion? "Very little," Liner told the B.A.R. The mother who took her protest to the Sequoia District Board said in her unsigned letter that while the class had been represented as a discussion on discrimination, it was really a forum advocating homosexuality Very little else has occurred

What of his fellow faculty? Don Richardson, teacher of English and Russian, said, in part, "Our modern social commentators are often lamenting that we have no heroes. While it may be that there are no Lindberghs performing glitzy heroics, we still have the rare individuals who show us that the human spirit is indomitable. Your [Liner's] public support of Danny last week was an emotional expe-rience for me that I will never forget. You have my un-bounded admiration."

And what of the students themselves? A typical responding essay had this declaration: "I feel that this was one of the greatest learning experiences in my life, and I hope the school continues to

one." From another: "All of the people on the panel one." From another: "All of the people on the panel showed courage. Every single one of the panel members showed love." And yet anoth-er: "Sticks and stones may break some bones, but names will never hurt the gay panel we had last week. These five people totally demolished the stereotypes of gays and les-bians."

Rod and Pat Liner have made other presentations to other audiences. One of the most important was to the ex-ecutive board of the Califor-nia Teachers Association, when that group was prepar-ing its anti-discrimination pol-

ing its anti-discrimination policy.

When Governor Wilson vetoed the state gay rights bill, Liner wrote him a letter of rebuke, in which the life situations of his two sons, Dan and Tom, were contrasted on the grounds of civil and social rights. Liner pointed out that while straight Tom (All-American goalie for the soccer team at Chico State) could take such rights for granted, take such rights for granted, gay Dan could not, even though he had demonstrated in myriad ways that he is a more than worthy citizen. Perhaps it is needless to say

that Liner never got a reply.
What would Liner want
most to see develop in education about homosexuality? He thoughtfully told the B.A.R., "I think it should be in every school. The amount of misinformation that a kid can gather about gayness by the time he is 15 is appalling. Instruction about homosexual persons should begin in the lower grades."

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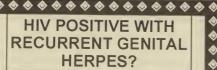
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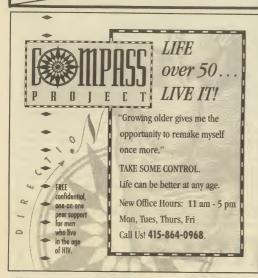
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not taken AZT before. Two doses of THF are compared with placebo; all participants will be under AZT protection. THF at no cost to participants.

For more information about these and other studies contact the HIVCare Client Coordinator at (415) 353-6215. HIVCare is a program of Saint Francis Memorial Hospital, 900 Hyde Street, San Francisco.

California News

U.S. Atty General To Investigate Sacto Firebombings

by I.A. Kisselman

SACRAMENTO — President Bill Clinton's Town Hall visit to Sacramento two weeks ago was a direct stroke of luck for besieged minority communities, including gays and lesbians, who have been subject to hate crimes, threatening calls, and a flurry of firebombings. The outgrowth of a presidential briefing on the firebombings and hate crimes was, as hoped, a visit to Sacramento by U.S. Associate Attorney General Webster Hubbell on Thursday, October 14.

October 14.

Hubbell was the interim director who ran the U.S. Attorney General's office prior to Janet Reno's confirmation, and remains a top level deputy. The decision to send him to Sacramento was particularly significant, since he is a former Arkansas Supreme Court Justice and an FO.B. (Friend Of Bill).

A series of meetings with Hubbell was held on Thursday; the first was with just loads.

A series of meetings with Hubbell was held on Thursday: the first was with just local and federal law enforcement; the second was just with those who were actually firebombed; and the third was an open community meeting aird press conference. During the question/answer session at the latter meeting, Hubbell was guarded about telling exactly what the government plans to do,

During the question/answer session at the latter meeting, Hubbell was guarded about telling exactly what the government plans to do, but was reassuring that the full weight of government resources would be focused on apprehending the heretofore unknown group that calls itself the Aryan Liberation Front. During the questioning, Marghe Covino, President of the Board of Directors of the Lambda Community Center, asked Hubbell in the event gay/bi/lesbian organizations are firebombed, can they expect any investigation or help from the federal government. Hubbell replied, "If you're asking whether your community is covered under the Civil Rights Act, the answer is no — but there are other statutes that we might invoke in order to conduct an investigation."

Covino later said, "I asked the question so that the people in that room would have a reality check. Every single group in that room that's been attacked has had property destroyed and has the threat of physical harm hanging over their heads. But we have a body count going. Hattie Mae Cohans, a lesbian of color, her roommate, a developmentally disabled gay man, both burned to death in a Salem, Oregon firebombing, Vincent Blades stabbed to death on a street in Sacramento; the Sacramento gay man who answered his door and was gay bashed in his own apartment; the Sacramento men who were being harassed by threatening calls and vandalism, who came home to find someone had poured gasoline on their driveway and in their gutters and lit it, destroying their car; the threatening calls received at the Community Center, are horrendous," she said. "Not only do they threaten our volunteers with bodily harm, but they leave messages on our answering machine. We are totally dependent on local law



Janet Reno sent Associate Attorney General Webster Hubbell to Sacramento Oct. 14 in the wake of the recent wave of hate crimes in the state's capital city.

enforcement and their interpretation of whether something is a hate crime or not. "Last year a plot was uncovered on a computer bul-

"Last year a plot was uncovered on a computer bulletin board that urged people
to vandalize and set fire to
the Center and a number of
gay-owned and gay-friendly
businesses. Our meeting room
doors were written on in
marker, and because of bomb
threats our staff had to have
special training — on how to
safely open envelopes and
packages — by Postal Inspectors," Covino said.

"I wanted the other community groups to know that

tors," Covino said.

"I wanted the other community groups to know that we are not talking about affirmative action or 'special rights,' which the right-wing bigots claim is our intention—we're just talking about civil rights protections. They say we need to stick together and give mutual support. That's true, but in order for that to happen they have to stop talking exclusively about ethnicity—that excludes us. They need to start talking about cultural diversity, which is more accurate and more inclusive. Those communities had to hear that we do not even have the same civil rights guarantees and protections that they enjoy."

Covino also gave Hubbell a copy of the book by Gregory Herek and Kevin Burell, entitled Hate Crimes: Confronting Violence Against Lesbians and Gay Men. Covino said, "I asked him to give the book to the President. I put an inscription in the fly-

Covino also gave Hubbell a copy of the book by Gregory Herek and Kevin Burell, entitled Hate Crimes: Confronting Violence Against Lesbians and Gay Men. Covino said, "I asked him to give the book to the President. I put an inscription in the flyleaf, asking him to read the book—which will help him to realize the depth of our need for protections—and then to support our efforts for inclusion in the Federal Civil Rights Act."

Sacramento Mayor Joe Serna was supportive of Covino's position and reiterated the need for sensitivity to, and inclusion of, the lesbian and gay community in protect.

Sacramento Mayor Joe Serna was supportive of Covino's position and reiterated the need for sensitivity to, and inclusion of, the lesbian and gay community in protections. Serna then took a couple of swipes at Governor Pete Wilson and State Attorney General Dan Lungren, citing their silence about the hate crime activity in Sacramento. "I haven't received a

call from either one of them,"
Serna said, "but that ends today, because I'm putting in a
call to both of them to get
them to take a position on
this." Serna is publicly upset
about Wilson's use of the immigration issue and termed it
"shameful" that Wilson would
use racial rhetoric to enhance
his political position.

use racial rhetoric to enhance his political position. Parenthetically, in the wake of the months-long siege of firebombings, some Sacramento lesbian/gay community leaders were shocked at the news that Governor Wilson has vetoed the California Schools Hate Violence Reduction Act of 1994. The two bills, AB 1299 and AB 1296, authored by Democratic Oakland Assemblymember Barbara Lee, would expect schools to adopt guidelines to prevent and respond to acts of hate violence, and to revise civic education curricula to include ethnic studies and human relations.

Assembly Bill 1299 would have declared the intent of the legislature to establish the California Schools Human Rights Advisory Committee. The committee would have promoted peaceful and harmonious school environments, and would prevent and respond to acts of hate violence. Article 4.5 of the legislation asserted that all pupils have the right to fully participate in the educational process, free from discrimination

and harassment.

Joanna Cassese, executive director of Sacramento's Lambda Community Center, said, "We're all still reeling from the firebombing of the NAACP, then we had last week's firebomb attack on the Japanese American Citizens League, and then most recently the Molotov cocktail at the home of City Councilmember Jimmy Yee. Where does the Governor think these people get started? It's in the schools, and unless we can catch it there and educate kids about ethnic and cultural diversity we're going to be seeing more

we're going to be seeing more of these assaults. "Obviously, even though he's in Sacramento, the Gov-

(Continued on next page)

ACT UP Calls Political Funeral in Sacto

by Dennis Conkin

AIDS activists from around the state will hold a political funeral and a noon-time demonstration at the State Capitol building in Sacramento on Friday, Octoher 29.

ber 29.

The political funeral, the first of its kind in Sacramento, will include the dispersal to, will include the dispersal of the ashes of people who have died from AIDS, sponsored by the California ACT UP Network including ACT UP/Golden Gate, ACT UP/San Francisco, and other chapters from the East Bay, Los Angeles, and San Diego.

Los Angeles, and San Diego.
The 'demonstration will
call attention to what Edward
Zold, a spokesman for ACT
UP/Golden Gate calls a "flimsy state AIDS budget."
"Governor Wilson's AIDS
budget for 1993-94 is flat and
does not reflect the growing
AIDS case load in the state.
This adds up to less care less This adds up to less care, less treatment and prevention, and will certainly mean more deaths," Zold said.

"The total program funding of \$76,000,000 is flat. It

hasn't been adjusted to meet the increasing costs of care and inflation," Zold told the

and inflation, Zold told the Bay Area Reporter. Zold and other AIDS ac-tivists also call for more fund-ing for tuberculosis and other communicable diseases, and the endorsement of alterna-tive AIDS treatments as well as state-funded needle ex-change programs, recently ve-toed by Wilson.

"The costs associated with

"The costs associated with HIV infection in injection users is going to be astronomical. Aside from it being the right thing to do to legalize needle exchange, it's also in the best interests of the state, financially," Zold said.

With average health care costs of a person with HIV estimated at \$120,000, if just ten percent of the 400,000 current injection users in the state contact HIV through the shared use of needles, the cost

shared use of needles, the cost expected to range in the billions of dollars

In addition to the AIDS demands, the group calls for the full funding of the California state Department of Occupational Health and Safety Administration, and the repeal

of Proposition 13, which has

of Proposition 13, which has frozen local property taxes.
"We insist that the Governor and legislature stop their corporate coddling in order to plan for and secure future funding for all health care programs in California. And finally, we call on Peter Wilson to stop his grab at local property tax revenues which property tax revenues which has severely impacted local health care programs throughout the state," Zold

Chartered bus transporta-Chartered bus transporta-tion will be provided from San Francisco for the demonstration and funeral. For more information, con-tact ACT UP/Golden Gate at 252-9200. ▼

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Stanford Medical Center in Palo Alto is approximately 30 minutes from San Francisco and San Jose by car and is accessible by Caltrain with a free shuttle between the train station and the center.

Firebombings

(Continued from previous page

ernor is living in an entirely different reality," she said. A group calling itself the Aryan Liberation Front called local television stations to claim credit for the firebombings. However, law enforcement officials, the Sacramento research group, Project Tocsin, and the Centers for

"If you're asking

Democratic Renewal in Atlanta have found no listing of a group by that name in their files. "You can be sure they're on our list now," said Sacra-mento Police Chief Art Vene-gas. Sacramento Mayor Joe Serna announced that the re-

Serna announced that the re-ward fund for information leading to the arrest and con-viction of the perpetrators is now up to \$45,000.

Minority community meet-ings have been held to create communication links and tele-phone trees. Still other meet-ings are planned to deal with personal safety and safeings are planned to deal with personal safety and safe-guarding the homes of com-munity leaders. The gay/bi/lesbian Lambda Com-munity Center has participat-ed in those meetings, and is receiving extra police protec-tion and patrols.

Covino told a National Public Radio reporter who asked what could be done to stop the climate of hate vio-lence, "One of the things we have to do is stop being toler-ant of bigots. Rush Limbaugh is polluting the airwaves in this community eight hours a day — and our social leaders grin and shuffle and talk about how 'Rush is just an entertainer, he's just kidding, he's being outrageous, he doesn't really mean it, if you met him you'd know he's re-ally such a nice man and a real gentleman.' That's bull-

"The kind of hate rhetoric "The kind of hate rhetoric and intolerance he espouses makes him the major mouthpiece for the ultra-conservative right wing. He's not just a comedian. No one talks about making Bob Hope or Robin Williams or even Mort Saul a political advisor — but Limbaugh's name is being pushed for President in some circles.

"The warlike, violent rhetoric of right wing minis-ters in their churches, Lim-baugh and his ilk on the air-waves, the Governor and his waves, the Governor and his immigrant scapegoats, it all creates the climate for these kinds of crimes. Eventually that kind of rhetoric translates into action — and people get hurt."



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HIV News

Promising Settlement on HIV Insurance Discrimination Suit

by Kimberly Griffin

A national health benefits provider has agreed to rescind a \$5,000 cap on AIDS-related insurance benefits, setrelated histratice benefits, ser-tling out of court in a test dis-crimination case brought by Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and the Equal Employment Opportu-Equal Employment Opportu-nity Commission's Los Ange-les regional office. The case marks the first time the Americans with Disabilities Act, which went into effect last July, has been invoked in an AIDS benefit discrimina-tion claim.

In addition to rescinding the cap, the Allied Service Division Welfare Fund agreed to pay \$10,500 in damages to the two employees of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company who filed a complaint with the EEOC after Allied's \$300,000 cap on benefits for catastrophic illnesses was dropped to \$5,000 for AIDS-related benefits. Lawyers from the EEOC and Lambda argued that singling out AIDS benefits is discriminatory under both the Americans with Disabilities Act and the Employee Retirement and Security Act of 1974. In addition to rescinding

1974.
"In some ways it's unfortunate that we didn't go to trial," said Amelia Craig of Lambda. "But [the settlement] will have the same effect on companies as a legally binding precedent. It's important that these healthcare providers. these health-care providers will know this is something they can't do."

Lawyers from the EEOC Lawyers from the EEOC are also confident that the case sends a strong message to self-funded insurers.

"The significance is that

the commission is prosecuting these cases, and we're pleased with the result that we got from this settlement," said Peter Laura, a lawyer on the EEOC's prosecuting team. We're getting the word out

that the ADA covers this type of situation."

However, the Allied

Allied Fund's lawyer, Robert Swet-nick, did not agree with that assessment. In settling out of court, Allied did not concede that the ADA, which bars employers, among others, from discriminating against people with disabilities, extends to self-insurers, Swetnick said. As an independent fund to which employers contribute, the ADA is not applicable, he

The defendant fund merely agreed to a nominal payment in order to avoid what would have been much, much higher legal fees," Swetnick said. "The fund can reinstitute the cap at any time it desires, and as soon as the law becomes more settled will consider imposing a cap

Another case currently in itigation in New York is expected to clear up the confusion that still exists in whether or not the ADA covers self-insured companies, which are most likely to insti-tute such caps on AIDS cov-

erage.

"We're confident that the case law will ultimately decide that they are covered," Laura said. "I think that would send a stronger mesage but I think this one does sage, but I think this one does

The door for self-insured The door for self-insured companies to institute caps on coverage for AIDS was left open when the Supreme Court refused last November to hear the appeal of Jack McGann, a gay man with AIDS who sued his employer, H and H Music, for imposing such a cap. The Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals had ruled that the Employee Retirement and Security Act of ment and Security Act of 1974 gave self-insurers wide leeway in administering their

benefit plans.
A month after the McGann decision, one of the Southern Pacific employees filed his first AIDS-related insurance claim, and a week later was given a booklet describing the Allied Fund's benefits — with a sticker over the section on catastrophic illness coverage, Craig said. The sticker explained that the fund would cover only \$5,000 of AIDS-related claims, but up to \$300,000 for all other catastrophic illnesses. When the trophic illnesses. When the other employee filed his first claim in March, he received a

other employee filed his first claim in March, he received a booklet with the same sticker. "It would appear that basically the [Allied] trust fund decided they could get away with it, and said let's not cover people with AIDS as much," Craig said.

In the wake of the McGann case, the ADA is now being used to file discrimination suits in addition to the Employee Retirement and Security Act against employers and insurance providers who attempt to cut AIDS benefits more than for any other catastrophic illness. According to the EEOC, approximately 14,000 AIDS-related disability complaints have been filed since July, and several dozen of them since are henefits related.

been filed since July, and several dozen of them since are benefits-related.

The Lambda and EEOC lawyers argue that implementing caps just for AIDS benefits is clearly discriminatory, and said the only way an insurer could prove otherwise would be to present actuarial statistics supporting the sin-gling out of one disease for a in essence that the cost would be astronomical. The Allied Fund was unable to present such support, Craig

said.
The lifetime cost of treating a person with AIDS was \$147,000 in 1986; the lifetime cost of treating someone diagnosed with HIV was \$119,000 last year, according to federal statistics. "Compare that to the cost of care of treating a patient with heart disease or There's this lack of informa-tion pervasive in American society leading [insurers] to assume that AIDS costs

more more."

Other factors are at work, too, she said. "Another assumption [is that] it's fair to segregate people with AIDS because they're different somehow. It's an unconscious homophobia that underlies that way of thinking."

▼

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Study: PWAs' Pets Are Well Worth Risks

United Press International

PULLMAN, WASHING-PULLMAN, WASHING-TON - Washington State Uni-versity researchers said Wednesday, October 13, that while people with AIDS are susceptible to catching dis-eases from animals, the emo-tional benefits of pets out-weigh the ricks

weigh the risks.
Dawn Gill and Diana
Stone of the university's Veterinary Medicine College said
some healthcare officials and veterinarians believe the risk of zoonotic diseases — those that can be transmitted from animals to humans - make having pets dangerous for PWAs and others with sup-

PWAs and others with sup-pressed immune systems.
But Stone said several studies indicate pets help low-er their owners' heart rates and blood pressure, in addi-tion to reducing their anxiety and despair.

Rether then seking PWAs

Rather than asking PWAs to give up their pets, Gill and Stone said health care-givers should focus more on preven-tive steps to reduce the risk of acquiring illnesses from an-

For example, they said fleas should be carefully con-trolled and people with im-mune system diseases should not clean a cat litter box. ▼

by Al Kielwasser

he October issue of Vibe magazine includes a scurrilous bit of jour-nalistic phlegm. In "No Apologies, No Regrets," au-thor Joan Morgan profiles Ja-maican singer Buju Banton and seeks to legitimize the reggae singer's homophobia on cultural grounds. Banton's song "Boom Bye Bye" openly advocates murdering vay men advocates murdering gay men.
To be more specific, Baton
calls upon listeners to shoot

cans upon listeners to shoot gays through the head.

In her unbalanced discussion of Banton and his gaybashing hit, Morgan manages to dredge up endless stereotypes about Jamaican gay men—that they are child molesters, rapists, classist leaches, and even that their serval externs. rapists, classist leaches, and even that their sexual activi-ties lead to incest, decapita-tion, and death. Not one gay Jamaican was quoted in re-sponse to such hateful absurdi-

The basic premise of Morgan's article is that homophobia is an essential and integral part of black culture. Of course, her definition of black culture excludes lesbians, gay men, and transgendered per-sons of African, Afro-Ameri-can, Afro-Caribbean, and Afro-

In an open letter to Vibe, numerous lesbian, gay, and transgendered activists of African descent roundly denounce the conclusion "that those who shun music or musicians who exposses homeopen." sicians who espouse homopho-bia do so out of racism or cul-tural insensitivity" and furthermore, they point out, "the decision of Vibe's Editor-In-Chief Jonathan Van Meter to publish polarial van Meter to publish so biased and defamatory a piece clearly illustrates that not all powerful, gay white men value or respect our lives?"

lives."
In defending Buju Banton, In defending Buju Banton, Joan Morgan joins in his hate-filled campaign and has allied herself with those who promote hatred rather than understanding. Criticism should be directed to Jonathan Van Meter, Vibe, 205 Lexington Avenue, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10016.

Life at KQED

The season premiere of In The Life, the only national lesbian and gay variety show on public television, aired on KQED (Channel 9) on October 13 and October 17. Significantly, the October 17 airing was at 3:00 PM (signaling a welcome change in the KQED tradition of airing lesbian and gay programming in the fringe gay programming in the fringe hours of the broadcast day). In The Life's season opener celebrated "Gay Pride — Great Performances," with a line-up of musical and comedy acts from lesbian and gay pride celebrations held across the country. High-pergy low-assimila. try. High-energy, low-assimila-tion host Lea DeLaria played the role of "in-your-face" rov-

the fole of "n-your-face" rov-ing reporter.

November's In The Life episode—"School's Out!. Les-bian & Gay Youth"— will ex-amine the challenges faced by young queers. The program provides an overview of

emerging educational pro-grams, high school homopho-bia, lesbian/gay teachers, and more

more.
The November episode also introduces a new "Fact File" feature. Among the statistics that will be revealed: half of all lesbian and gay youth surveyed report that their parents rejected them because of their sexual orientation. Forty-five percent of gays and 20 percent of lesbians experience verbal harassment in high school, and 28 percent are routinely forced 28 percent are routinely forced to drop out because of homophobic harassment.

phobic harassment.

Send thanks to KQED for picking up the October episode, and let the management know you look forward to seeing In The Life next month (and every month!). Write to Mary Bitterman, President, KQED, 2601 Mariposa Street, San Francisco, CA 94110; you can also call 415-864-2000, ask for the "KQED-TV Comments Line," and record your thoughts

nd record your thoughts.

In The Life is not funded by the Public Broadcasting System, but is produced through a national membership network. For further information (and a copy of the In The Life program guide) call 800-627-ONTV.

The Media Access Project: **Playing Fair**

Legislation to reinstate the "Fairness Doctrine" is now pending in Congress. Before it was disbanded in the midst of de-regulation hysteria, the Fairness Doctrine required rainess Doctrine required broadcasters to provide balanced coverage of "controversial" issues of public importance. Conservative radio talk show hosts and other media hate mongers (i.e., Rush Limbaugh and clones) are spearheading an effort to defeat this legislation.
The Media Access Project

is encouraging the lesbian, gay, and bisexual communities gay, and bisexual communities to support the Fairness Doctrine bills in the House of Representatives and Senate (H.R. 1985 and S. 333). The Media Access Project asks you to contact your Senators and Representatives in support of these bills (U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510, tel. 202-224-3121; U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515, tel. 202-225-3121). For more information, call Gigi Sohn at the Media Access Project, 202-232-4300. ject, 202-232-4300.

Gay Day One

Lesbian and gay comedians will be featured in an up-coming episode of the ABC newsmagazine Day One. The segment, scheduled to air on October 25th, profiles Lea DeLaria, Suzanne Westenhoeffer, and Frank Moya. Included is a backstage look at DeLaria's historic appearance on the Arhistoric appearance on the Ar-senio Hall Show, which made her the first out gay or lesbian her the first out gay or lesbian comedian to appear on the late-night talk show circuit. Comments may be sent to Tom Yellin, Executive Producer, ABC News, Day One, 147 Columbus Avenue, Seventh Floor, New York, NY 10023.

The only way to cure homophobia is to confront it! Notify the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, San Francisco Bay Area Chapter, of all defamations or affirmations, and if possible supply us with documentation. Our office number is 415-861-4588; South Bay Hotline 408-235-0229; East Bay Hotline 510-273-9146; fax 415-861-4893. Our mailing address is GLAAD/SFBA, 514 Castro St., Suite B, San Francisco, CA 94114. ▼

National News

NY Okays Coverage For Domestic Partners

by Kimberly Griffin

The state of New York has ended its prohibition against extending family health insurance coverage to domestic partners, clearing the way for the city of New York to ex-tend benefits to employees' domestic partners, both gay and straight. Full health benefits for city

employees' partners were ex-pected to be implemented any day, as labor unions and gay and lesbian representa-tives hammered out the details in collective bargaining, according to Martin Rouse, director of the mayor's office for the lesbian and gay community.

The announcement was is-

sued by state Insurance Department Superintendent Salpartment Superintendent Salvatore E. Curiale five weeks before New York's mayoral election, and four years after Mayor David Dinkins promised during his campaign to extend benefits to domestic partners. The promise garnered enthusiastic support for Dinkins from gay and lesbian community members.

The policy change is being hailed as a significant step by gay activists because it has the potential to affect domes-tic partnership policies in the private sector, in addition to city employees.
"We expect the floodgates

to be opened, and insurance companies around New York state to now start writing policies which are inclusive of domestic partners." Rouse said, adding that his office was being flooded with calls from individuals and companies interested in extending coverage.

However, a spokesman for New York's Insurance De-partment emphasized that the new policy does not order insurance companies to extend their coverage, it simply al-lows them to do so if they choose. The department only controls the kind of insurance

that companies may offer.

Both Dinkins and Governor Mario Cuomo had asked the insurance department to re-examine the definition of "chiefly dependent" in the state's policy on family insur-ance coverage, said John Calagna, a department spokesperson.
"This decision, the city of

New York feels, will allow [city agencies] to extend their benefits to workers," Calagna

The insurance department interpreted the phrase "chiefly dependent" to include domestic partners who can demonstrate that they are mu-tually interdependent by showing that they share a budget, own property together, or have a long-term relationship, he said. A specific

There is nothing

sweeter than

a promise kept.

There is nothing

more bitter than

a promise broken.



New York Governor Mario Cuomo.

set of criteria for who qualifies as a domestic partnership will be worked out with insurance companies and gay and lesbian representatives, he said.

Since Dinkins began a program in January for domestic partners to register with the partners to register with the city, approximately 1,300 couples — 150 of them city employees — have done so. Rouse said he expects another surge in registration in the wake of the benefits an-

nouncement.
Municipal governments in close to a dozen cities — in-cluding San Francisco, Seattle, Boston, and Minneapolis— currently extend insurance benefits to domestic part-ners.



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dential...they promise you will not have to pay their fee. They promise you will get your money quickly. They promise and they promise and they promise!

And who will these brokers sell your policy to? Not the company

that will pay you the most, but someone who will pay the broker the most. Think about that! And who are these "funding sources" that they are sending your personal and confidential medical records to? Someone you can check out? Someone you can trust? Someone you would want owning your life insurance policy?

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> wait to get you your funds after you have been approved. have over 50 million dollars of our own money that is solely dedicated to purchasing life insurance policies. You receive the money possible with no hassles, no excuses

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Lloyd Dixon

July 31, 1954-Oct. 6, 1993 Lloyd Dixon, a long-term surviv



ng-term survivor, went peacefully after a brief ill-ness. He is sur-vived by two sisters and two brothers, by his parents, Inge-burg and William Dixon, and by ten nieces and nephews. Al-though his social ough his social

circle was small, he deeply touched those he knew.
Lloyd moved to San Francisco after studying art at San Jose State University in the early 1970s.
Aesthetic was 1

Aesthetics were always Lloyd's forte. adored art, was a very talented

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craftsman, and enjoyed teaching himself new skills. He did everything himself new skills. He did everything from building furniture to sewing to laying bricks. Each apartment that Lloyd had was a work in progress, and although he often agonized over the unfinished nature of his projects, the process of planning and doing was such a joy to him that it is impossible to conceive of any of his places ever having been completed.

Frank Sinatra.

Although at times cantankerous, he is best remembered for his warmth and sharp wit. Lloyd was a master of the clever retort. We are honored to have shared in his presence. For details, call Jen at 826-5235. ▼

Jorge (George) R. Estrada April 23, 1961-May 24, 1993



He was ready to go and went quickly. Some of his last words to his lover of almost seven

been completed.

He was fond of Paris, Casablanca and Frank Sinatra

ing hours of Mon-day, May 24, Jorge died after a five year battle with the HIV virus and AIDS.

'Don't forget him," must all be careful and learn a lesson

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OCTOBER 21, 1993

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from the people who are gone. He had a heart of gold and was one of the

a heart of gold and was one of the sweetest guys in the world.

Jorge is survived by his lover and many, many friends. His mother, Sara, in Mexico, a brother Javier, and sisters, Sylvia, Patty, Isabel, Lydia and Roquel; and numerous uncles, aunts, nieces, nephews and cousins, all of Mexico.

A resident of California for almost 20 was be will be missed the yall whip got

years, he will be missed by all who got to know him. He looked like a fighting "Chilo," but to those who really got to know him was really a sweet, kind, and

wing person.

Bless you, George, and may you rest

in peace.

Memorial services were held in S.F.
in May and in Mexico in June.

Donations may be made in Jorge's
name to the S.F. AIDS Foundation, 25 Ness, SF 94102; Kairos House, or CURAS would be appreciated.

Randy Galloway

Nov. 3, 1950-Oct. 5, 1993

'My grandmother's ritual had

coome mine."

So began one of Randy's stories, where the hero reads the weekly obituaries as he adjusts to life with AIDS. Randy was a talented and hard-working writer, begin ing writer, begin-ning to find his voice in short fic-tion and mystery

ngeles, Randy earned degrees from C Berkeley, San Jose State and olden Gate University. His relationship to

Golden Gate University.

His relationship to AIDS began when he cared for and lost his lover of nine years, Doug Ferrell. Shortly thereafter, years, Doug Ferrell, Shortly thereafter, Randy left his job at SF Consulting Group to write and help others with HIV. He created disability workshops with the AIDS Health Project, found-ed Friends for Life — an AIDS outreach program of the SF Public Library, and volunteered for Shanti and Project Inform.

Project Inform.
At Randy's passing were his lover Javier Valencia and dog Skip Valentine, his sisters Debbie Wagner and Susan Franzke, his close friends J. van Doorn, David Westrup, Greg Riley, Susan Powell, and Russell Ferrell.
His ashes will be scattered near his country home, atop the mountains, where he so often found peace.
Memorial donations may be made to the Gay and Lesbian Center of the new Main Library.

Robert G. Hall Aug. 3, 1940-Oct. 18, 1993

Aug. 3, 1940–Oct. 18, 1993

Bob died peacefully at Davies Hospital after a two-year struggle with AIDS. He graduated from San Jose State and served as a Naval Officer on active and reserve duty. He was employed by the Department of the Navy. As a long-term member of the Centaurs Motorcycle Club of Washington D.C., he was active in both the San Francisco and East Coast leather communities. He was preceded in death by his lover, William Barbour, who died on September 30, 1991. Bob is survived by his daughter Lisa Baum, his mother, Cynthia Hall, his brother Steven and sister Vicki.

sister Vicki.

A memorial service will be held at St. John's Episcopal Church, this Thursday, October 21, at 7 p.m. St. John's Church is located on Julian Street, between 15th and 16th Streets and Mission and Valencia. ▼ A memorial service will be held at St

Ray T. Hollaway Jr. Sept. 20, 1956-Oct. 2,1993



on to his next great spiritual adventure. His life was marked by extraordinary Ray was a major

Vern Black's Awareness Counseling and Integrity Training programs, and he trained numerous Awareness Counselors. He was also intimately in-volved in the Sage Experience

Ray was a deeply spiritual being who was also having a magical human ex-perience of life. He now returns to the innerplanes he so loved, filled with the gratitude and love of those he touched with his wisdom, lightness and love. Ray asked that we celebrate our shared memories of him and continue our lives in the spirit of love, enthusiasm and in-tegrity he so embodied.

tegrity he so embodied.
Ray: Your loving family, friends and clients bid you fond farewell and deep thanks. We know that you are with your fellow saints, laughing and reveling in the joyful memories you created.
Namaste, Wise Sage.
Details of the Celebration of Ray's life and exhibition of his masterful artworks, to be held in November, are available at (415) 621-6364.

▼

Nicholas Guinta

May 5, 1952-Oct. 8, 1993

We lost wonderful Nicholas after a long and brave fight to AIDS at Davies Medical Center. Nicholas wanted and got

wanted and got to have his mother at his side. When Nicholas died he had endless love around him from family and friends.

Nicholas was born in New Jersey and grew up a "native New York City boy." He served in the U.S. Navy and made San Francisco his home. He worked at San Francisco his home. He worked at Mount Zion Hospital. Nicholas leaves behind his mother

Carmela, brothers Andrew and Leonard, sisters Phyllis Ludovico and Maryanne DeNardis, and seven nieces

maryanne Dervarius, and seven incess and nephews. Nicholas was the reason for so many great times at all the right parties and events, it Nick was those the second of the reason of the best Disco Pan Dancers ever. This man could dance! Nicholas liked Palm Springs and Hawaii, all for the sun, but mostly visiting his family back east. Nicholas performed in Men Behind Bars. To life, to love and to loving memories of your life 'til we meet again. I found myself at his door with flowers.

Nicky, hold on to this moment in time forever... Love from all of us.

Services are planned Thursday, Nov. 4, 1993. 2 pm., Swedenborgian Church, 2107 Lyon Street, (at Washington), San

2107 Lyon Street, (at Washington), San

Marc J. Herberg

Feb. 17, 1965-Oct. 12, 1993



peacefully on Tuesday, Oc-tober 12, 1993, at San Francisco General Hospital from complica-tions related to AIDS.

Branch, N.J. and

Branch, N.J. and grew up in Bricktown, N.H., attended and a conversity of Pennsylvania, in California, PA., where he majored in his first love, the theatre. He moved to LA in 1988 and on to his final home in SF in 1989. When he wasn't working in the theatre, was could

final home in SF in 1989. When he wasn't working in the theatre, you could find his happy smiling face behind the bar at the Castro Station. He lived his life to the fullest and just the way he wanted, enjoying art, music and the warmth and love of his many friends. He will be deeply missed by those he leaves behind, his loving parents Joel & Maris Herbergs brother Scott; and his lover, Peter. ▼

Martin King

May 3, 1952-Oct. 12, 1993



His childhood Greg long time companion Donn, and his close friend Dale were in constant attendance along with his family

with his family prior to his death. He also received sup-port from other personal friends and co-workers with calls, visits, cards and

He is survived by his mother, Ruth, his sisters Diane, Arlene and Geraldine, and his niece Rebecca and nephew Mark.

Martin was born in San Francisco, Martin was porn in San Francisco, spent most of his youth in the East Bay, and returned to San Francisco in 1973 to begin work at the Nob Hill branch of Mama's Restaurant. His employers, Mike and Fran Sanchez, were com-

pletely supportive to Martin when he informed them that he had AIDS, which greatly reduced his stress.

Martin had the personal charm and arresting good looks of Lawrence of Arabia, and knew almost as many peonle. His creative talents were numerous

ple. His creative talents were numerous. He was a former member of the Young Californians singing group, with whom he traveled to perform.

The family and friends of Martin wish to thank his nurse practitioner, Catherine Lyons, who very sensitively managed his case for four years. Also to be thanked are the staff, caregivers and volunteers of Ward 86, the VN & Hand Zon Hengrier who all helped in

and volunteers of Ward 86, the VN & H, and Zen Hospice, who all helped in meaningful ways to ease Martin's burden in his final weeks. Donations in lieu of flowers are requested to be sent in honor of Catherine Lyons, R.N., and in memory of Martin King to WARD 86, San Francisco General Hospital, 955 Potrero Avenue, SF CA 9411. S.F., CA 94110.

Martin's life will be celebrated among Martin's life will be celebrated among the many people he touched, on the evening of October 23, 1993. Music, poems, stories, pictures and memories will be shared by those who knew him, loved him, and will never forget him. The world is a better place because Martin King lived, loved and cared. ▼

Timothy McKinney Sept. 5, 1940-Sep. 21, 1993

Timothy passed away peacefully at Garden Sullivan,



of Sandusky, Ohio.

A dedicated teacher of child-ren with special needs, Timothy taught at Gar field in the City

field in the City for the past decade. He was a native of Sandusky and earned both bachelor and master degrees at Miami of Ohio. In the Air Force he advanced to the rank of Captain and was active in sports. His track record in middle distance running stood in the Air Force for several years. Timothy arrived in San Francisco in 1974 and quickly surrounded himself with a host of friends whom he entertained with home productions of the

tained with home productions of the songs he composed and the plays he

Timothy is mourned by his students and fellow teachers at Garfield, his friends, and the family that he loved so much.

John David Nelson Nov. 21, 1960-Sept. 7, 1993



the Bay Area he was David. More was David. More important he was loved, and he will be missed. John David was born in Ludwigsburg, Germany. He died of cardiac arrest in Olive hurst.

cardiac arrest in Olive hurst, California, with his close friend, Clint Nelson, at his side Clint and his mother, Sadie, cared for David in his final days, a time that was a blessing to them as much as to David. Funeral service and interment tools place in Marysville.

David is survived by loying parents.

interment took place in Marysville.
David is survived by loving parents,
Olga Tribuzio of Bricktown, N. J. and
James Nelson of Boise, Idaho, and by his
sister and brother, Cindy and Jim.
Unlike many who come to San Francisco, far from family, David was not
here to "escape," but only to get on his
sown and "do it his way." He remained
close to his family even as he made
many friends in this area.
Farewell, John David. We love you.
Go with God. ▼

Timothy E. Ryan (Keoke)

Jan. 16, 1959-Oct. 3, 1993



there is no more pain. I will always remember your Bart Simp your Bart Simp-son smile and your butterfly kisses. I have loved you for al-most four years and will always continue to love

Just remember to save me a seat at the bar for cocktails. ▼

Obituaries

Robert Lewis Parke



voice lesson that afternoon, and played the usual played the usual Sunday night piano at The Square the night before! He was active to the end. A peaceful end to several months of struge heart failure.

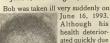
to several months of struggling with congestive heart failure.
Bob played at piano bars in the city since his arrival in 1976 including Dore's, the PS, The Mint, and The Galleon; he played the opening and closing nights at JJ's on Fillmore. Even the earthquake could not deter him—Bob played and the crowd sang "San Francisco" by the light of candles at JJ's that night.

Francisco" by the Igns of control that night.

He taught piano and voice, was organist and choir director at various churches in Kansas and the Bay Area. At the age of 16, he directed the church choir, played the organ and was the baritone solosis for Handels" "Messiah".

baritone soloist for Handel's "Messiah." He was musical director for many productions and cabaret shows here in San Francisco. Bob was a multi-faceted, talented man, but we will cherish most his friendship and love. Bob is survived by a half brother, Mark Schanfeldt, three aunts, Donna Petersen, Rose Bradley and Clara Owen, and many loving friends. You are invited to a joyous celebration of Bob Parke's life to be held at The Square (a piano bar, of course), Mason and Geary, Sunday, Oct. 24, from 8-9-30 p.m. For more information, please call George Baldwin, (415) 586-5831. ▼

Robert W. Rogers June 8, 1937 – Aug. 26, 1993





June 16, 1993.
Although his health deteriorated quickly due to AIDS-related
PML, his sturdy
sense of humor
remained with
him to the very
end

Born in Huntington, WV, Bob
graduated from
with a BA degree in Journalism and
served as Editoria Chief (Tr.) served as Editor-in-Chief of The Parthenon, the bi-weekly campus

newspaper. He worked from 1959 to 1961 as a reporter for the Huntington Publishing Co. Bob entered the US Army in August 1961, and served on active duty for two years before being honorably dischaged, with his US Army Research obligation completed in honorably dischaged, with his US Army Reserve obligation completed, in July 1967. After active duty he began work at Missouri Pacific Railroad in Seattle, WA, and Oakland, CA from 1963 to 1968. In 1968 he moved, per-manently, to San Francisco and began work at Southern Pacific Transporta-tion Co, where he remained employed for 25 years.

Robert is survived by his dear aunt Martha and brother Charles. Many thanks to Victor, John, Michael, Peter, David, Sam, Gary, John from SC Southern Pacific Co., and his many coworkers there for their kind and loving support. Thanks also to the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus of which Bob was a charter member and a staunch

Services will be held at Grace Cathedral in the Chapel of Grace on Wednesday, October 27, 1993 at 4 p.m. A short inurnment service will immediately follow in the Chapel of St. Francis, which will house the Columbarium, Bob's final resting place, also located within Grace Cathedral. All are invited to attend.

Beverly Sikes Feb. 27,1952-Sept. 28,1993



for his large heart, quick wit and sharp but loving tongue. Cooking for his friends and listening to country music

friends and listening to country music were two of his favorite pastimes. He left the Grub Stake to start BMS (Building Management Services), for which he managed several buildings in San Francisco. This career led to his active participation in S.O.S. (Save Our Streets) and Friends of the Urban Forest, both organizations dedicated to

Ronnie's friends would also like to thank San Francisco General's Ward SA for all of their Tender Loving Care. Ronnie loved spur-of-the-moment trips in luxury cars to Vegas with his friends. We would also like to thank the people that issued his credit cards. His Southern hospitality and

people that issued his credit cards. His Southern hospitality and wonderful dinners will truly be missed. Interment will be next to his beloved mother in Macon Memorial Park, Macon, Georgia. We love you, Beverly. Your friends will miss you. ▼

John P. Siracusa Aug. 10, 1961-Oct. 6, 1993

After a courageous fight agains
AIDS, John



Wednesday morning, October 6, 1993 John was born in Los Angeles, California and

California and grew up in Canoga Park. He moved to San Francisco in 1990, where his contributions to the clean & sober and the leather communities were immeasurable. His involvement with Drummer Began when he won the title of Drummer Bow. volvement with Drummer began when he won the title of Drummer Boy 1990-91, which escalated his popularity and gained him the well-deserved respect of his peers. Not merely in San Francisco but across the country and internationally, John became a well known figure to the communities whose causes he served. In acknowledgment of his contributions, the 1993 Drummer Contest, attended by hundreds of participants from all over the world, was dedicated to him. This event provided an opportunity for those who

world, was dedicated to him. This event provided an opportunity for those who knew him as a public figure to express their appreciation on a grand scale. Despite his notoriety, John remained unfailingly accessible to those he held close in his personal life. To be in his intimate circle was to be touched by a simplicity and humility found rarely in this world. His loyalty, compassion and generosity were limitless. He was the friend who would always listen, where quiet support could be depended on. He was a lover whose devotion and affection never wavered. He was a son and brother who made his family proud, not merely for his accomplishments but for merely for his accomplishments but for the depth of his character and the beau-

John will be deeply missed by many He is survived by his loving partner

Arlen Lasater, and his parents, Tom and Mary Ann Siracusa; his beloved Aunt Fran; his grandmother Mrs. Joseph Siracusa, his brothers Tom and Joe Siracusa and his sister, Carrie Ann King; his nephew and two nicces; as well as his many aunts, uncles and cousins.

well as his many aunts, uncles and cousins.

John's partner and family wish to thank his caregivers for all of their help in making John's departure from this life as easy as possible. Among these, the contributions of Frank, Medley, Laura, George, Skeeter and Kelly were exceptional, though many, many others were generous in their support and love. In lieu of flowers, John's partner is requesting that contributions be made to the John Siracusa Fund. clo 18th Street Services, 217 Church Street, San Francisco CA 9414. Memorial Services will be held on Saturday, Nov. 6, 1993, at a time and location to be determined. Please call (415) 6617921 or look for details in an upcoming Mr. Marcus column. "John, we will miss you dearly." ▼

David Wade Dec. 15, 1955-Oct. 5, 1993

David left for the next world with his



and friends were very important to him. He was greatly loved and will be deeply missed by all those who were fortunate enough to have known him. As he would have said, "Someday we'll be together."

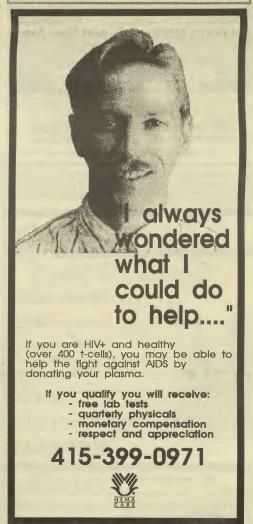
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Smoking Tied to Increased T-Cells - and to Rapid HIV Proliferation

by Rene M. Astudillo

On October 26, the Health and Public Safety Committee and Public Safety Committee
of the San Francisco Board of
Supervisors will vote on
Angela Alioto's proposed legislation that would totally ban
cigarette smokng in San Francisco workplaces, including
restaurants. A similar measure
by Alioto was defeated ones by Alioto was defeated once before and this time around before and this time around the opposition to 100 percent smoke-free public environ-ments remains strong and highly emotional.

At a recent hearing conducted by the committee, members of San Francisco's restaurant industry showed up restaurant industry showed up in full force to oppose the measure, saying that it would be detrimental to their business and to the city's tourist industry. Anti-tobacco proponents, on the other hand, lined up testimony after testimony on the health hazards of smoking, including those of secondhand smoke. those of secondhand smoke. Clearly at issue was whether government should be allowed to regulate private by to regulate private behavior and curtail one's freedom of choice. But for Alioto and the supporters of the legislation,

the interests of those who may not have a choice — like restaurant workers who have to put up with cigarette smoke be-cause of the need to maintain their jobs

At a recent Castro Street fair, members of CLASH, the Coalition of Lavander Americans on Smoking and Health, gathered signatures for a petition that supports 100 percent smoke-free work-places. Of special concern to this group of lesbian and gay activists is the fact that smoking, and for that matter, second-hand smoke, results in accelerated disease progression among persons living with HIV and AIDS.

A recent study published in the journal AIDS concluded the journal AIDS concluded that "stopping smoking may be an important factor in prolonging survival time to AIDS." The study, conducted in an outpatient clinic at St. Mary's Hospital in London, involved 84 AIDS patients who had given a detailed account of had given a detailed account of their smoking habits prior to developing AIDS. Smokers in the study were identified as smoking more than ten cigarettes per day, while nonsmokers were identified as either lifelong non-smokers or ex-smokers for at least one year. Researchers found that HIV-positive individuals who smoke progress to AIDS more rapidly. These results are sup-ported by another report made at the VIII International AIDS Conference in Amsterdam that heavy smokers are more than three times as likely to have had Pneumocystis carinii pneumonia or PCP than light

More recently, at the Ninth International Conference on AIDS in Berlin, a study show-ed that initial CD4 counts have been shown to drop when pa-tients stopped smoking. The authors conclude that the in-crease in T-cells among smokers may indicate an activated immune response related to the effects of smoking. Smoking also appeared to increase the potential crease the potential for developing thrush. Similar results were found by the San Francisco men's health Study involving 586 HIV-positive men where smokers had higher initial CD4 and CD8 counts than non-smokers. While it is not known how

(Continued on page 26)



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National News



Howard Chip Tharsing (left) and Chris Collins answered questions about the NGLTF's survey of Fortune 1000 companies on gay and lesbian policies at an Oct. 15 press conference at the Apple Research and Development Center in Cupertino. (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

Ninety Percent of Fortune 1000 Companies Snub NGLTF Survey

by David O'Connor

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force last week re-leased its report card on cor-

leased its report card on corporate America's treatment of lesbians and gays — and the grades aren't good.

But gay leaders and corporate heads are hopeful that the climate is quickly turning gay-positive in the nation's boardrooms.

boardrooms.

NGLTF's survey of the
Fortune 1000 companies was
presented October 15 during
a press conference at the Apple Research and Development Center in Cupertino.
Later that evening, Apple
hosted a kick-off party for
NGLTF's third annual conference on workplace issues.

"This is a report card,"

ence on workplace issues.

"This is a report card," said NGLTF co-chair Chris Collins, "and the majority of the Fortune 1000 is flunking."

But Collins pointed out that many smaller companies are insluded in the surround

not included in the survey do have policies supporting les-

bians and gays.
"It's the little Davids, rather than the corporate giants, who are leading the way," Collins said. "These results are like snapshots taken at a family picnic: not all the

The snapshot released at the conference was, in NGLTF's word, "preliminary." The Task Force

Five companies that completed the survey partner benefits for same-sex partners of their employees.

promises to release the final form in the spring of 1994. So far, the preminary response

by the 1000 companies polled — the biggest 500 industrial and 500 service companies in the United States — has been a response by 243. But that number included only 98 completed surveys, the other 145 were refusals to complete

completed surveys; the other 145 were refusals to complete the survey.

Among the 98 companies that completed the survey, roughly three-fourths have non-discrimination policies that include sexual orientation. And three more companies polled said they are considering such a policy.

Five companies that completed the survey have domestic partner benefits for same-sex partners of their employees, including medical and dental coverage, child care benefits, family/personal/sick leave, and bereavement leave.

Of the 98 companies, 57

Of the 98 companies, 57 said they include issues related to sexual orientation in their diversity training pro-grams. About a quarter of the

grams. About a quarter of the participating companies (21) recognize lesbian and gay employee groups. And 67 companies completing the survey provide some sort of support for workers with HIVIAIDS.

Companies with the most progressive polices on sexual orientation are concentrated in Silicon Valley's computer industry. Since last year's conference, eight computer companies have adopted nondiscrimination policies that include lesbians and gays.

gays.

Much of the progress among high tech companies is attributed to the work of Digital Queers (DQ), a professional group of lesbians and gays in the computer industry. DQ was honored at the October 15 reception for donating \$200,000 in computers and consulting fees to update consulting fees to update NGLTF's computer system. "The high tech industry is

"The high tech industry is a creative industry, and we are creative people, so that's where a lot of us are," Collins said. "High tech values independence and ingenuity — there's sort of a maverick streak and mavericks will lead the way"

lead the way."

Doug Cuenin of Borland
International software said he
sees the business climate
slowly becoming more open to lesbians and gays nationally. He reported only good reactions to Borland's adoption of domestic partners benefits in 1992.

"Someone has to do it first," Cuenin said. "Growth will be faster next year. Com-panies will find out it's not

Companies with the most progressive polices on sexual orientation concentrated in Silicon Valley's computer industry.

bad, it helps them attract and retain employees."

NGLTF plans to repeat the survey yearly to monitor changing polices. Next January, the task force's Workplace Institute will open an efficie in the Bru Area to fee office in the Bay Area to fo-cus on job issues. George Kro-nenberger, who will head the office, said he will lobby more companies to adopt pro-

gay policies.

Making a surprise appearance at the October 15 party was former presidential candidate Paul Tsongas, who criticized President Bill Clin ton for failing to "do enough" to fulfill his promises to les-bians and gays.

Oleta Adams provided en-

tertainment.
The Workplace Issues Conference took place October 15-17, at Stanford University and drew some 800 people. Workshops covered a variety of issues affecting lesbians and gays at work, including laws concerning sexual orien-tation on the job, dealing with resistance, managing diversity training, breaking the laven-der ceiling, organizing em-ployee groups, starting a gay-owned business, and being out at work, among many others.

Community News

Kids

(Continued from page 15)

wanted know how to push teachers past their personal acceptance of diversity to teaching that kind of respect in the actual school curricu-

What's best for the kids

Discussion included exploration of the different challenges faced by children who grow up in lesbian or gay families and those who find themselves in gay families following a break-up of a straight family.

Whether discussing the concerns of children in public, parochial, or independent schools, the bottom-line concern of all gathered seemed to

cern of all gathered seemed to be: what is best for our chil-

One parent posited that "children are going to en-counter homophobia and het-

counter homophobia and heterosexism whether we come out or not," and urged that "if we come out, we can counter it more easily."

A number of parents told of their success in finding support for their children as a result of their decision to come out to school teachers and administrators. Parents. and administrators. Parents were not the only ones able to articulate the way schools responded to their disclosure, as a middle-school student with lesbian mothers offered her perspective on how classmates responded to that knowledge.

Hostility from gays

Problems for lesbian, gay, and bisexual parents are not limited to the classroom. Many parents acknowledged the lack of support and the hostility they had experienced within the lesbian and gay community. "We moved to the Sunset," said one parent, "because we couldn't walk down the street with our

Babies

the Virginia custody case, Chan is sometimes "amazed. He's much more sensitive" about lesbian parenting issues, being part of an alternative family, she told the B.A.R.

tive family, she told the B.A.R.

But why the gayby boom? Have lesbians finally surpassed mere "chic" status, and made the inroads to creating lives they want? Have gay men been forced because of AIDS to establish lives based on more than pleasure, sex, and consuming the latest trendy products? Have we grown up?

"I think we're maturing as a culture," Chan concurred. "As a community we are evolving. The community is opening itself up to these different ways of living, where as a subculture there were a lot more restrictions. We're much more open about doing what we want to do, opening the realm of creating families.

It's really important. We are seeing that there are families made of gays, lesbians, and bisexuals."

Why the boom in the San

bisexuals."

Why the boom in the San Francisco area? "It's an easier place to be that," said Greenblatt. "What you see with your eye is your reality."

When you see a baby carriage, don't assume that's it's a straight family. Look up. Two women may be pushing the carriage, or a gay dad may be on his way home, while the other gay dad makes dinner.

"Maybe ten years ago," said Chan, "our own vision of family was molded from growing up with a nuclear family"— and usually a dysfunctional one at that. Now, she said, when people see more examples of queer parents, they see the possibility.

"We have to re-think our idea of Family," she said. \[To sign up for the parenting program (\$12 per session or \$70 for all seven sessions), call the Lyon Martin Women's Health Services Center at 565-7674.]

daughter in the Castro" without feeling hostility.

While the morning session
focused upon the personal experiences of parents and their
children, the afternoon session focused on available resources as well as student and
parent rights. The final session was devoted to building
skills. And, there was time set
aside not only for mobilizing,
but also for socializing.

Representatives from the

Representatives from the American Civil Liberties Union, the San Francisco Unified School District, and a Unified School District, and a variety of community organizations were on hand to show their support for lesbian, gay, and bisexual parents. When it was announced by organizers that Superintendent of Schools Waldemar Rojas, who was scheduled to give the opening welcome, could not attend because his wife had gone into labor that morning, participants ap-plauded his decision as entire-ly appropriate. Later, the group applauded the follow-up announcement: "It's a how!"

up announcement: "It's a boy!"
Rojas, who attended last year's LGPA forum, was called "supportive" of the group's efforts by a member of LGPA. School Committee members Angie Fa and Tom

members Angie Fa and Tom Ammiano also showed their interest and support by taking part in the day's events.

The LGPA will hold its next general meeting to address the question "Where do we go from here?" on November 10 at Buena Vista School (2641 25th St.) at 7 p.m. For more information about the meeting or to arrange for meeting, or to arrange for childcare, call (415) 387-9886. ▼

Studies

ting that nothing in these studies suggested that wom-an-to-woman HIV transmission was occurring, and voic-ing the need to move beyond "risk group mentality towards a more complex message addressing a hierarchy of risk behaviors."

behaviors."

"Behaviors put you at risk, however you identify yourself," stated Dr. Kegebein, sounding a theme addressed by many of the researchers present. The Berkeley/San Francisco study coordinator Melissa Jones emphasized that in looking at the surveys, "It's very important to distinguish between behavior and identity." Tia Martinez, assistant project director for the tant project director for the second study, agreed that the

second study, agreed that the surveys focused on behavior: "We didn't care what women called themselves."

Among high-risk behaviors practiced among the women surveyed were injection drug use (10.8 percent since 1978), needle sharing (7.4 percent since 1978), and unprotected sex with men (56.3 percent oral, 39 percent vaginal, 10.9 anal), including unprotected anal), including unprotected sex with gay and bisexual men (at least 14.6 percent) and male injection drug users (at least 6.4 percent). All of the

HIV-positive women in the seroprevalence survey had en-gaged in one or more of those

activities.

Of the women surveyed who reported injection drug use, 71 percent had shared needles, and 31 percent reported sharing needles with gay or bisexual men. With women partners, 28.8 percent reported unprotected sharing of sex toys. The incidence of of sex toys. The incidence of all these high-risk behaviors indicates "a potential for con-tinued transmission of HIV in this population," in the words of the Berkeley/San Francisco

According to Lemp, the numbers now are comparable to the relatively low seroprevalence among the gay male community in the late 1970s-early 1980s. "It's uncer-tain where it will go, and there are differences, for inthere are differences, for instance in terms of numbers of partners, but we need to address the issues of sex with men and injection drug use or we will have more infections than [the currently reported] 1.2 percent in this population."

Melissa Jones called atten-tion to the fact that the popu-lation surveyed was relatively well-educated (83.4 percent in the first survey had at least some college, and 61 percent in the second study had a college degree or higher), was aware of community health

esources, but still believed themselves to be at little or no risk and still practiced un-safe behaviors. This further

safe behaviors. This further corroborates the need for prevention education more accurately geared to lesbian and bi women. Said Jones, "It's important to address people through their identities to get to their behaviors."

Lemp believes that the most effective education comes when information is translated into grassroots awareness: "It's not being a lesbian or bisexual woman, that puts one at risk] it's injecting drugs and having unprotected sex with high risk partners." partners.

partners.
Said Lemp, "The National
Commission on AIDS has
said targeted prevention efforts are desirable; and targeted prevention is called for here for lesbian and bisexual women."

Lesbian Avenger Judith Cohen says the surveys' reve-lations remind us we need to provide each other with "comprovide each other with "community support, not community stigma." To build that support, and to memorialize Joan Baker, a young lesbian who recently died of AIDS, says Cohen, "We will be marching from 18th and Dolores at noon on Saturday, October 23 to Market and Castro, where women will be speaking out. Joan Baker is very much in our memory. very much in our memory now." ▼

Kathy Labriola

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NSI) and whether you have an AZT resistant strain of HIV virus. If you are interested in more information about the study, please contact Dr. Larry Mole at (415) 493-5000, extension 4694

BAY AREA REPORTER OCTOBER 21, 1993

Managed Scare

by Michael C. Botkin

have never liked dealing with insurance compa-nies; frankly I don't know anyone who does. Clintonian health care plan, perpetuating the lucra-tive scams of the insurance intive scams of the insurance industry — supposedly better regulated and delivering "managed care" — leaves me cold. If it were up to the insurers I'd be out on my lean, AIDS-infected ass, crossing my fingers and hoping my 12 remaining Tcells (named for the Apostles — can you name them all?) suffice to carry me to 1999, when the President's Universal Health Care is promised to arrive. I'm out of that bind, for now, but only by chance.

by chance.
When I retired from fulltime employment two and a half years ago I COBRA'd my insurance, in effect allowing insurance, in effect allowing me to continue on my employer's health care plan for 18 months as long as I paid my own premiums. This was a surprisingly good deal, since unemployed PWAs have a remarkably difficult time acquiring private insurance. It was an even better deal because, as it turned out, the state of California paid for it via their "Health Insurance via their "Health Insurance Premium Payment" program (HIPP). If you can document that being on the state dole would cost them twice as much paying your premiums

— and my monthly acyclovir
bill alone did that — they pick up the tab.

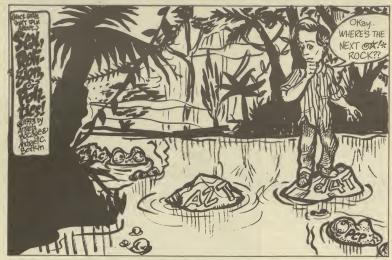
So I had my insurance, and I had it free, but I only had it for 18 months. Except that shortly after this the "CO-BRA extension" bill was passed. This legislation was designed to "fill the gap" between the end of COBRA benefits and the onset of Medicaid, which won't kick in until 29 months after the date of your disability. Thus I could count on another 11 months of insurance, still paid for by the State.

of insurance, still paid for by the State.

Back then, 29 months seemed like an awful long time; after all, the "average" PWA only lives 25 months past diagnosis, so I was already on borrowed time (having been diagnosed way back in '88) and might well be expected to croak before insurance again became an issue. Despite a steady decline in weight, health, energy and T Despite a steady decline in weight, health, energy and T-cells, I outlived my insurance and recently found myself back in the market for health coverage.

Bite the bullet?

Naturally, the first thing I did was call up the Medicaid people to claim my reward for bucking the odds and living the full 29 months after disability. I was rudely awakened: I was not eligible for Medicaid as I'd never paid enough into it to qualify for its benefits. While it was true that I'd been working for over a decade, I was mostly employed by academic instituployed by academic institu-tions — and Universities pay no Social Security when they



hire students, even graduate students. The assumption is that someday you'll get a real job and have plenty of time to accumulate benefits before you retire. Alas, once again I'd failed to fit the norm.

"Do you mean I will never be eligible for Medicaid?" I asked the agency worker. "Well, you'll qualify when you're 65," she offered bright-ly. I try to be optimistic, but even I couldn't take much hope from that. Stalling works best over a period of months or years, rather than

decades.
If push came to shove I could always go on MediCal, our state program (which is better than most state programs). But this threatened a reduced standard of care. In particular I was concerned to

maintain my supply of Biaxin maintain my supply of Biaxin (aka Clarithromycin), an expensive (about \$300 per month) antibiotic that I need to keep my MAC and its deadly wasting syndrome in check. My old insurer was already balking at its high cost and MediCal won't pay for it, or other recently approved drugs, out of sheer bureaucratic sloth, orneriness and/or short-sighted penny-pinching.

short-sighted penny-pinching.
So I bit the bullet and called my old insurer, Aetna, called my old insurer, Aetna, to inquire about a private "conversion" policy to replace my old workplace plan. The premiums seemed reasonable, only slightly higher than previously, and it looked like HIPP would continue to cover them. Half sold, I tried to give down the agreet on how

HIPP would continue to cover them. Half sold, I tried to pin down the agent on how soon they'd start paying for my Biaxin.

"Oh, this program doesn't cover prescription drugs. Your employer must have provided that through a separate plan," she blandly informed me. I sputtered like a fire-cracker; my "prescription drug" bill totals nearly a grand each month. If the plan didn't cover them my whole HIPP equation would fall apart, and I could hardly afford to pay for them on my own. In fact, close examination of the pitiful coverage provided by the conversion policy revealed it to be substantially worse than Medi-Cal. I resigned myself to becoming another medical ward of the State. coming another medical ward of the State.

Most coveted bounty

Less than a week later I got a phone call from my partner, at work. "There's a partner, at work. "There's a note with my pay stub announcing the beginning of 'domestic partner benefits' — specifically including same-sex couples — with next month's 'open enrollment' period," he gleefully informed me. "As of the first of the year I can cover you under my insurance. It'll cost me about \$50 a month — and that about \$50 a month — and that might be tax deductible." My partner works for a prestigious medical establishment. Last year its parent organization instituted domestic part-

ner benefits, but my partner's division did not, and showed no signs of doing so. Now, and in the nick of time, we could cash in on that most coveted bounty of matrimony — health benefits. Even if he gets hit by a truck or loses his job I'll be able to COBRA this new insurance for another 29 months

months.

So stalling paid off, at least as far as insurance goes. And right now it's paying off pharmaceutically as well. After five years of taking AZT, that aging war-horse of an anti-viral, I've switched to a new drug that so far promises to buy me yet more time. I'd always known that AZT was an imperfect and toxic treatways known that AZ1 was an imperfect and toxic treatment, but hoped that it would give me a high enough "bounce" to carry me along until they came up with something new.

As it happened, it bought me about three opportunistic infection-free years, followed by a humpy but not fatal de-

by a bumpy but not fatal de-

Commentary

scent. Aware that AZT was scent. Aware that AZT was losing its punch, I experimented combining it with the second generation nucleoside analogs (a/k/a "nukes"). ddC had no obvious effect. ddI produced a not entirely pleasant speedy "buzz" of energy, but made me sick to my stomach. Encouraged by positive reports on the underground, I started on D4T, the latest and reputedly best of the nukes. Not only is it producing a decent "bounce" of energy and weight gain, but it ducing a decemb bother of energy and weight gain, but it doesn't appear to gnaw at the liver and bone marrow the way AZT does.

Of course it may be eating

some other organ, but it's welcome to for now. After all, it isn't a "cure" any more than the other nukes, it's just another link in the chain of temporary expedients. If I'm lucky, it will tide me over un-til something new comes along, and so on ad infinitum until I miss a link and croak, or the "cure" is found, or I can finally collect that damn Medicaid.

Smoking
(Continued from page 23)

smoking leads to a more rapid progression to AIDS, it is theorized that the smoking-induced increase in CD4 cells, which HIV attacks most readily, enables a more rapid

proliferation of the virus. Among HIV-positive gay men, many are known to be

working in restaurants and bars, while for many more, din-ing out in restaurants is quite a frequent practice. CLASH is especially committed to protect the rights of those living with HIV and AIDS, as it strives to educate the rest of the lesbian and gay commu-nity on the health hazards of cigarette smoking, and of secondhand smoke. ▼

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Why You Should Vote No On **Proposition 172**

by John Woods, CUAV Boardmember

Tuesday, Novemn Tuesday, November 2, the voters of this state, including you – yes you – will be asked to vote on an important issue: SCHOOL VOUCHERS. Many of you might be asking what school vouchers have to do with me the gay community and me, the gay community, and CUAV. Well, it has a lot to do with you and the gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender community. And the bottom line is that we strongly recommend that you VOTE ommend that you VOTE AGAINST PROPOSITION

174.

It is not very often that CUAV as an organization takes a position on any ballot measure, but we feel compelled to speak out against this proposition for the following reasons:

lowing reasons:

•We as a community, need to support our public

schools, where the vast majority of students and thus the majority of queer and sexually questioning youth go and/or can afford to go.

•Unlike pri-

vate schools, public schools cannot discrimicannot discriminate against youth because of their gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, economic status, and/or educational abilities

ities.

• Public school curricula are subject to public scrutiny and input from the community at large, of which gay/les-

bian parents, gay/lesbian teachers, and gay/lesbian taxpayers are a vital component through publically elected boards of education.

boards of education.

•However, the most compelling reason for our community to oppose Proposition 174 is that it will Balkanize education and limit the access of youth to Speakers Bureaus like those of CUAV and many AIDS awareness. We would lose our ability to provide vital violence preprovide vital violence pre-vention and AIDS awareness

vention and AIDS awareness and prevention information to our at risk youth. In the case of CUAV, our Speakers Bureau — which has been operative for over ten years and speaks to over 4,000 youth a year — has put a human face on our sexuality and our issues in order to diminish the likelihood of

our getting bashed on the street. Equally important, the gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgengayllesbian/bisexual/transgen-der and questioning youth who are often in the audi-ence during our — or other organizations'—speakingen-gagements would have even less exposure to positive role

We all know that positive images of us are sadly lack-ing in the general media. We know that the majority of private schools are religious in nature and often have an inclination to exclude issues about sexuality, particularly issues covering gay and les-bian people, from their cur-ricula. Further, it is OUR re-ality that over 50 percent of gay bashers are under 21 and that some exposure to gay/ lesbian/bisexual/transgender people can lessen the likelihood of a person committing

a bashing.
Under Proposition 174, state funds would subsidize schools that will choose to

Unlike private

schools, public schools cannot

discriminate

against youth because of their gender, race, religion,

sexual orienta

tion, economic

status, and/or

abilities.

t will choose to serve only the wealthy, the bright, and the straight — and teach them a narrow view, if any at all, of sexuality and gender roles.

Under Prop 174 there's nothing to prevent a person from setting up "schools" to 'reform" homosexuals and other

uals and other social "devi-ants." Such schools already exist in some states. Proposi-tion 174 could possibly subsidize such schools with your tax dol-

Granted, the public schools have a long way to go, but the way to make a difference is with efforts like those our community put together to get the homopho-bic Boy Scouts out of the public schools in San Fran-cisco and San Diego.

And with friends like gay delesbian school board members Tom Ammiano and Angie Fa, we can make a difference. It's up to you and me.

In solidarity with the Coalition for Civil Rights, NAACP, NOW, MALDEF, Korean Asian American Par-American Democratic Club, and the American Jewish Congress, we urge you to VOTE NO ON PROP. 174!▼

CUAV is a non-profit agency that works to prevent hate violence against lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender persons and promotes personal and community safety. The agency also provides counseling, advocacy and referral to people who are bashed or who are battered in same sex domestic violence. For services or more information, call (415) 777-5500. If you are bashed or battered and need help, call our 24 hour Crisis Line at (415) 333-HELP. The agency's offices are located at 973 Market

Classifieds /

LEGAL NOTICES

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 955184

October 14, 21, 28 November 4, 1993. L-955184

PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME OF MINOR AND NEW BIRTH CERTIFICATE FILE NO. 954116

In the matter of the Application of RUBY DAVID CURLEY, alleges, Petron Street, Pe

October 14, 21, 28 November 4, 1993 L-954116

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 955298

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the many state of the county of SAN FRANCISCO, in the FRANKLIN ME ABS. HOT OF CHARLES FRANKLIN ME ABS. HOT CHARLES FRANKLIN MEARS II for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from the county of the

October 14, 21, 28 November 4, 1993 L-955298

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 955299

955299
IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of RICHARD application of RICHARD IVLE NORTON for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that RICHARD LYLE NORTON for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that RICHARD LYLE NORTON for change of DATE of the Court of RICHARD LYLE NORTON for the Court of RICHARD LYLE NORTON for the Court of RICHARD LYLE NORTON for the Court of RICHARD AND FOR THE COURT OF THE CO

October 14, 21, 28 November 4, 1993. L-955299

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 179414

The following person is doing business as ANT HILL PRODUCTIONS, 76 Liberty St., San Francisco, CA 94110: PAMELA RORKE LEVY, 3757 Clay St., San Francisco, CA.

HUNKE LEVT, 3/77 Listy St., Saint Flat. Cisco, CA.
Registrant commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date January 1, 1993. This business is conducted by an Individual. Signed is conducted by an Individual. Signed the state of the Country of Saint State of the City and Country of San Francisco, CA on September 30, 1993.

October 21, 28 November 4, 11,, 1993. L-179414

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 179208

October 7, 14, 21, 28, 1993. L-179208

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 955170

955170

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of MATTHEW JAMES PERRY for change of name. The for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that MATTHEW JAMES PERRY has filed an application proposing that tills PERRY has filed an application that MATTHEW JAMES PERRY has filed an application brought that till persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department X-4 on the 17th of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of this Order be published in the BATTHEW AND AND THE STATE OF THE STATE OF

October 7, 14, 21, 28, 1993, L-955170

JOBS OFFERED

about being a gay porn star? New production co-seeks hot models! Send photo and specs to: HotHouse Entertainment P.O. Box 410990 #523 San Francisco, Ca 94141 or call Michael (415) 585-4280642

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Wilson

Vince Reyes, Alameda County's multilingual/multi-County's multilingual/multi-cultural coordinator, told the BAAR, "although the gover-nor says there is legislation in place, I haven't seen any evi-dence of this actually happen-ing. The bill would have aug-mented any existing legisla-tion and found more ways of bringing in multi-ethnic studies in schools. To veto this bill sends a message that everything is okay at the pace

that is going."

J.P. Tremblay, a spokes person in the governor's of-fice, told the B.A.R. that Wil-son plans to introduce his own hate crimes legislation next session. "It's still in the formative stages," he said. Lee said she plans to reintroduce AB 1299 for the fourth time when the Legislature reconvenes in January.

Other legislative action by Other legislative action by Wilson on hate crimes legislation included a veto of AB 1296, which would have required the Alameda County Hate Violence Task Force and the Alameda County Wilson Wilson Multiplingual Co. Multicultural Multilingual Co ordinator to adapt their model program against hate vio-lence for statewide application, contingent upon procure-ment of private or federal funds. The governor rational-ized, "Last year I signed legis-lation to authorize the state Fair Employment and Hous-

ing Commission to address ing Commission to address hate crime issues under the Ralph Civil Rights Act and directed my administration to seek legislation next year targeting hate crimes for enhanced criminal penalties."

Wilson also vetoed Senate Bill 559, mandating the De-partment of Justice to imple-ment statewide hate crime rement statewide hate crime reporting form its existing resources. Wilson reasoned that since earlier legislation, in 1989, providing for the same reporting, the "legislature has removed the appropriation" for it and the Department indicates "that the reporting system cannot be implemented within its existing resources without an appropriation."



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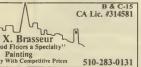
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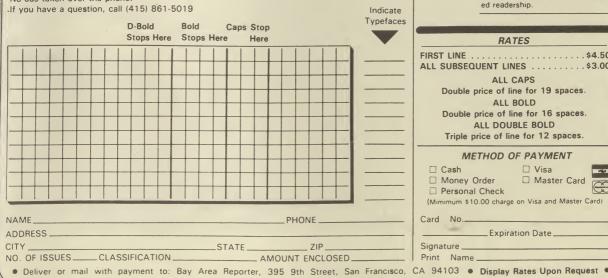
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EOPLE AND PERSONALS

Homovision -TV With a Lavender Twist

Riding the Waves

by Paul Bollwinkel

hese are heady times for gay channel surfers. From home-grown, low-budget, grown, low-budget, local access shows, to formula network shows and news programs, our lives are popping up all over the place. Even cable's Showtime is in on the act. Is it possible that a gay sensibility is emerging in America's tight-ass moral fabric?

ric? If you believe a recent



Is he or isn't he? Best friends Busy (Lani Billard, left) and Amanda (Laura Bertram) learn about homosexuality and homophobia when they discover that their karate teacher is gay Showtime's season kickoff of its *Ready or Not* series.

Gallup poll, there are, in fact, millions of homophobes out there just waiting to get to know you. Over 60 percent of

those polled who had met a gay man or lesbian admitted that their attitude toward homosexuality had changed dramatically as a result of knowing us personally.

Enter TV, the great electronic intruder that's leading America on a baby-step parade toward a brave new gay world. Think what waves a savvy channel surfer could have caught in just the last few years. Northern Exposure introduced the lesbian couple that founded Cicily, Alaska, decades ago; two gay men live there now. Roseanne finds Nancy (Sandra Bernhard), the sassy, goofy friend of Roseanne and sister Jackie, falling in love with a blond cosmetics saleswoman played by Morgan Fairchild. Melrose Place has a gay character, and Picket Fences and Law & Order both have featured gay characters and themes.

On Seinfeld, George's former girlfriend finds true love with a woman, sending him into a pathetic identity crisis. In another episode George is given a massage by a hunky blond and then panics afterward, telling Jerry that as the man touched him, "it" moved. On yet another episode, Elaine casually attends a lestification.

man touched him, "it" moved. On yet another episode, Elaine casually attends a lesbian friend's wedding — the laughs center on the trouble she has getting to the ceremony, not the lesbians. Last season, Jerry and George are mistaken for lovers by a college journalist, sending them both to the brink as they frantically deny that they're gay. In the process they gave TV critics a new catch-phrase: "... not that there's anything wrong with that."

Revolutionary Level

Revolutionary Level

Starting with All in the Family, Maude, and Soap in the '70s, sitcoms have long toyed with gay humor. Just about every show since has introduced gay characters, usually as a one-shot issue for the main characters to react to and then forget.

But it's Roseanne, TV's most popular traditional sitcom, that has taken gay integration to a new — and for television—revolutionary level. A few seasons back the show introduced Martin Mull as Roseanne's annoying gay boss, Leon. The following year we see him playing poker with Roseanne's husband, Dan, and his buddies — he's part of the gang.

After Nancy comes out, Dan looks stricken, shrinking into a corner of the kitchen. But a few scenes later, she's back to being part of the family, trading insults and hanging out. And, at the end of last season, Nancy strayed and had a brief fling with a sleazy real estate broker (Tim Curry), but this year she's back, telling Roseanne that

Steady rear estate bloke (Tim Curry), but this year she's back, telling Roseanne that she's once again had it with men and is searching for some gratifying lesbian sex. Contrast this with the final

contrast this with the final episode of Cheers, where Diane's motive for a return to Boston (her love for Sam) is exposed by a whiny gay lovers' quarrel that's reminiscent of corny, circa 1966 movie shirly act.

lovers' quarrel that's reminiscent of corny, circa 1966 movie shtick, and you'll get an idea where TV comedy is, hopefully, headed. It's not just sitcoms, either.

Gay comedians occasionally appear on Comedy Central, the all-comedy channel that just last week taped an evening of gay stand-up in the city that will air in December (see OutThere this issue). The Kids in the Hall, featuring the hillariously gay Scott Kids in the Hall, featuring the hilariously gay Scott Thompson, is Canadian TV's best contribution to sketch comedy since SCTV. The show reminds us what a stale, hetero rut Saturday Night Live is in.

If you tend to surf right past comedy take a look at

past comedy, take a look at ABC's 20/20. They seem to take on homophobia at least once a month with segments that bash the military and other organizations, like other organizations, time Cracker Barrel, that discrimi-nate against homosexuals.

(Continued on page 42)

Renowned Gay Author Answers Charges of Plagiarism

David Leavitt Talks Back

by Roberto Friedman

avid Leavitt is back with a new novel, While England Sleeps, quite different from anything he's written before. Set in 1930s London, the book tells the love story of Brian, a young aristocrat and writer, and Edward, a working-class lad who runs off to fight the Fascists in the Spanish Civil War. Adventurous material for a young gay novelist born decades after the events described, and I think Leavitt is to be commended for trying his craft with material beyond the middle-class contemporary milieu of his previous output. avid Leavitt is back



David Leavitt on the Stephen Spender flap: "It's obvious that what bothers him is the homosexuality.

(Photo: Marion Ettlinger)

However, the author, for whom success has come early and often (Family Dancing, The Lost Language of Cranes), has run into some very nasty trouble in the form very nasty trouble in the form of octogenarian British poet and man of letters Stephen Spender. Spender claims that Leavitt is guilty of plagiarizing his 1948 autobiography World Within World, part of which describes his friendship with a young working-class chap named Jimmy who goes off to fight in the Guerra Civil.

Some of the relevant passes

Civil.

Some of the relevant passages in While England Sleeps are, in fact, remarkably similar to ones in the Spender memoir. And the elder statesman of British letters recently told The Washington Post: "I am simply amazed how anyone purporting to be a writer of fiction can be so idle, slovenly, and dishonest as simply to lift incidents from my autobiogra-

dishonest as simply to lift incidents from my autobiography and describe them as having happened to a fictitious narrator in his novel."

Leavitt admits that he used Spender's life as a "springboard" for his novel and originally planned to include World Within World in his acknowledgments. An attorney for Viking, Leavitt's publisher, advised against it, not

Writers' Conference Focuses on Politics, Science, and Gender

OutWrite '93: Verbal Prolixity

by Nancy Boutilier

utWrite '93, the recent fourth annual writers' conference for gay and lesbian writers, offered little opportunity for generalizations. Held Oct. 8-10 at Boston's Park Plaza Hotel, the conference brought more than 1500 people together for a weekend packed with nearly 50 panel discussions, two dozen writing workshops, scores of literary readings, six public conversations, five keynote addresses, and endless opportunities for schmoozing. The conference offered so many variations on the theme of queer writing, every conference-goer had his or her own take on the events.

The programs as planned invited readers, writers, and publishers to reflect on the state of the craft and the business of writing. Panels were framed around a series of questions and often yielded more questions than definitive answers: In "Dirty Laundry: How Do We Write About Our Scandals," journalists discussed their experiences and dilemmas in the handling of controversial information; in "How Science Shapes the Movement and Vice Versa," a panel of scien-



Lesbian writer Jewelle Gomez urged conference attendees to write with "visionary force."

tists and social critics ad-dressed the sensitive relationship between science and pol-

In between "Subverting the Narrative," "Writing About Boy Love," "Writing From the Body," and "Writing and the Spirit," there was still time to discuss "Stereotypes, Prototypes, Archetypes and Cliches."

Participants on panels in-Participants on patiets in-cluded essayists, cartoonists, screenwriters, performance artists, reporters, science fic-tion writers, publishers, nov-(Continued on page 41)

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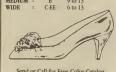
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OutThere

The Annals of Queerdom

by Orland Outland

Everyone who was anyone was at the Great American Music Hall last Monday for the taping of a new Comedy Central special called Out There, which airs on the cable channel Dec. 2. And as the (so original!) title implies, it's a show made up of all-gay comics, including local faves Scott Capurro and Marga Scott Capurro and Marga
Gomez. And, as expected, it
was a capacity crowd that
whooped it up for the cameras, as the audience took advantage of the opportunity to
be on TV and to show Comedy Central execs that we
were starving for — and wild
for — this kind of programming. The MC for the
evening was Lea DeLaria,
who showed us another side
of her talents: not only was
she very, very funny, but she
also performed her duties as
if to the purple (or the lavender, in this case) born. If this
show does become a series,
DeLaria has the stuff to be its
permanent hostess.

permanent hostess.
It was a star-studded event, with every media type there to record it (and every media whore there to promote their whore there to promote their own upcoming shows). The between-shows photo op was something out of an old Hol-lywood flick, with cameras clicking and photographers jostling to get the group shot. There was a feeling in the air that something major was happening—an entertainment milestone even (and Yours milestone even (and Yours Truly is not prone to exaggeration). The out-of-town producers of the show displayed their total ignorance of our local culture by seating the reporter from the conservative, hetero, suburban *Chronicle* at the front table, while the



Gay comic Scott Capurro shone at the Great American Music Hall taping.

Examiner's Barry Walters ended up seated behind me. Now which paper's readership will tune in for this show, may I ask rhetorically? During the break, I got an opportunity to ask David Drake what he's been up to these days. The last I'd seen of him, Drake had taken his hit one-man show, The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me, to LA; when the run of the play ended, Drake had decided to stay put and pursue a movie stay put and pursue a movie career. I asked him if he'd had any interest in being in the LA production of Jeffrey, the LA production of Jeffrey, which could have given him a lot of visibility in the industry. "They asked me to audition, but I'd just finished doing a play for a year, and being in a play is a full-time job. I'm concentrating on movies right now." His first major film role is that of Tom Hanks' friend in the upcoming Ionathan Demme film ing Jonathan Demme film Philadelphia. He's also done a small part as, yes, a hair-



Lesbian comic Lea DeLaria: She got squeezed. her melons

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

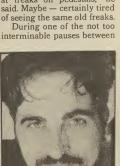
dresser, in the gender-bending comedy It's Pat, coming in March. "I play Pat's hairdresser, Gunter. She comes into the George Sand Salon, where I work, and says, 'Gunter, make me look sexy!"

where I work, and says, 'Gunter, make me look sexy!'
David, if you can make Julia Sweeney's Pat look sexy, you deserve an Academy Award.

At the next table, I saw club promoter Gus Bean, and asked him what he's been up to. While Mr. Nightlife isn't currently doing a weekly club, his next big production is a party on the Friday of Thanksgiving weekend. Bean checked out of the scene a few months ago after the demise of Cyclops, and though I didn't get to ask him about Guatemalan spas and their cleansing all-fruit diets, Gus did look very fresh. I asked him what he thought of the demise of Product, his former Saturday night competition in the "club wars."

Bean said that Rhythm had table the second out of the second out of the second out. tition in the "club wars." Bean said that Rhythm had Bean said that Rhythm had stolen the crowds away from 1015 Folsom. "The music there is great, and there are lots of beautiful men," he hastened to add. Why did he think Product had closed? "People have gotten tired of that club kid thing, of looking at freaks on pedestals," he said. Maybe — certainly tired of seeing the same old freaks.

During one of the not too interminable pauses between



Examiner critic Barry Walters behind OutThere

acts, DeLaria entertained the acts, DeLaria entertained the troops while the techno guys set up for the next performer. "Does anybody have any questions?" she asked. Local activist and Electric City regactivist and Electric City reg-ular Peggy Sue was seated behind me, and she shouted out, "What's your bra size?" To which DeLaria responded, To which DeLaria respondent "Come on up here and find out," ripping open her jacket to reveal nothing but her black bra. Peggy Sue prompt-ly took her up on it, beating a



Activist/bad girl Peggy Sue: "She asked for it." (Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)

path to the stage, and then, egged on by the crowd, didn't just squeeze the fruit for ripeness but made juice on the spot. A startled DeLaria backed off, and regretfully the cameras weren't running. "She asked for it," Peggy Sue said later.

Oh. and the show! Very

said later.

Oh, and the show! Very funny. Very, very funny. Someone please tell Joan Jett Blakk to stop being so goddamn talented, because it's getting embarrassing having to write about her every week — people will start talking! But as the psycho drag queen during the Pomo Afro Homos skit on the Queer Shopping Network, Queer Shopping Network, the crowd all agreed that Blakk stole the scene — and yes, this one made it on cam-

era.
Sociological note: ever suspect that gay people are a little too obsessed with beauty? After DeLaria introduced each comic, the applause started automatically — but then, if the comic was particularly attractive the applause ularly attractive, the applause suddenly rose much higher when he or she came into view on stage, and didn't rise if he or she wasn't so cute. Is being pretty such an accomplishment that it deserves that extra applause? Think about it.



David Drake's pursuing a movie career

(Photo: Michael Wakefield)



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PART 1: MILLENNIUM APPROACHES
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Leos Janacek's 'The Makropulos Case'

Masterful 'Makropulos'

by Paul Thomason

he opening performance of Janacek's

The Makropulos

Case last Thursday
proved the San Francisco Case last Thursday proved the San Francisco Opera can still achieve world-class status when it wants to. The opera is superbly cast from top to bottom, intelligently directed, brilliantly conducted, and presented in a production that enhanced, rather than fought, the work. The result is an all too rare, topnotch evening in the theatre. If you like opera, do not miss this one.

The Makropulos Case is not the most immediately accessible of Janacek's efforts. However, it's one that repays close attention — and homework — from the audience. (If you can, take advantage of the free pre-curtain lecture given an hour before the performance.)

The plot is an odd one, even by operatic standards.

The plot is an odd one, even by operatic standards. Emilia Marty (soprano Stephanie Sundine in her local debut) is a glamorous opera singer who was given a life-prolonging potion by her alchemist father when she was 16 years old. As a result, she has lived 337 years and must find the formula for the elixir to keep from dying. Her search leads her to Prague, the scene of a passionate affair with Baron Prus, and a century-long lawsuit over the baron's estate. In the end, though she gets the formula,

Emilia Marty realizes it is death that gives meaning to life; she dies, and the formula is burned.

Strong Cast

Opening night, Sundine gave a searing portrayal as the multifaceted Marty, singing strongly and acting up a storm. The rest of the cast shone, too, especially the two legal antagonists, tenor Gra-

> It would be an egregious oversight on the part of SFO were it not to invite both singers back very soon.

ham Clark in his local debut as Gregor and baritone Tom Fox as Prus. In those rare instances when I could tear my attention from Sundine's singing to watch the others on stage, they were always reacting to the drama.

On Thursday, Sundine and Clark had occasional difficulty with the uppermost reaches of their vocal range, but

this is a minor quibble given their astonishing overall per-formances. It would be an egregious oversight on the part of SFO were it not to invite both singers back very soon.

soon.
Fox appeared here last rox appeared nere last summer as Jochanaan in Sa-lome, a part he played nearly nude, in white body makeup with hair he could sit on. As Baron Prus he could not be more different. He made his entrance, wearing multiple more different. He made his entrance wearing multiple layers of fashionable clothing, looking very much like the imperious, worldly aristocrat. His performance was equally

His performance was equally impressive.

Both Dalibor Jedlicka, as Kolenaty the lawyer, and Miroslav Svejda, as his clerk, made their U.S. opera debuts last Thursday. Each contributed to the evening's success, as did Kathleen Brett in her debut as Kristina. William Burden's Janek and Gary Rideout's Count Hauk were outstanding.

Remember the name Catherine Cook. As the cleaning woman she only has

Catherine Cook. As the cleaning woman she only has about 25 lines, but her rich gorgeous voice made an enormous impression Thursday night. Her upcoming Schwabacher Debut Recital should not be missed.

Stale Sets

Leni Bauer-Ecsy's sets are the same ones with which the San Francisco Opera intro-duced *The Makropulos Case* to the U.S. in 1966. They

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...under the resourceful musical leadership of Charles Mackerras, the San Francisco Opera performance was a complete success...Thoughtful, beautiful and dramatically cogent, this is a production with plenty to reward the eye, ear and mind."

"S.F. Opera's Powerhouse 'Makropulos'...

Stiff upper lip, old girl: The regal soprano Stephanie Sundine ''gave a searing portrayal as the multifaceted [Emilia] Marty'' in SFO's *The Makropulos Case*. (Photo: Larry Merkle)

could be more imaginative, but remain effective, especially the set for Act II, which ly.

Soprano Elisabeth Soderstrom, herself a moving Emil-

Joshua Kosman, San Francisco Chronicle

OPENS OCTOBER 28 AT 6:30 PM

Die Meistersinger

by RICHARO MAGNER
with KARITA MATTILA, BEN HEPPNER, BERND
WEIKL, ROBERT ORTH and LARS MAGNUSSON
Also October 31, November 3, 6, 9, 12, 17
Sungin German with English Supertitles

Hennaner, Weikl*, Orth*, Roote

Cast: Mattila, Keen, Heppner, Weikl*, Orth*, Rootering* Magnusson, Del Carlo, Ledbetter Production: Runnicles, Mansouri, Oswald, Munn

von Nürnberg

ia Marty in the London recording, co-directed the work with SF Opera General Director Lotfi Mansouri. Their straightforward staging mined the humor, as well as the humanity, of the piece, while always serving the dra-

Despite the strength of this cast, the real star of this production is principal guest conductor Sir Charles Mackerras, which is hardly surprising as he is the man almost single-handedly responsible for the



Principal guest conductor Sir Charles Mackerras.

Janacek revival in the West. Janacek revival in the West. His idiomatic, authoritative leadership brought out the marvelous colors of the score, and the orchestra truly sang. Here's hoping we get lots more Janacek during Sir Charles's tenure on Van Ness Avenue. ▼

Editor's Note: The Makropulos Case continues at the War Memorial Opera House through Oct. 30. For ticket information call 864-3330.

ancisco SAT, OCT 23 AT 7:30 **Turandot** by GIACOMO PUCCINI with EUM AMATDA, LUCIA MAZZARIA, MICHAEL SYLVESTER, KEVIN LANGAN and JOSEPH FRANK Also October 26, 29, November 2, 5 Sung in Italian with Finglish Supertites Cast: Marton/Voss* (11/2,5), Mazzaria*, Sylvester/Popov (11/5), Langan, Frank, Estep, Petersen, Baerg, Pation Production: Runnicles/Robertson (11/2,5), McClintock, Hockney, Falconer*, Munn Co-production with Lye Opera of Cheago



TOMORROW, OCT 22 AT 8 PM

The Makropulos Case

(Več Makropulos) by LEOŚ JANAČEK with STEPHANIE SUNDINE, TOM FOX, GRAHAM CLARK and MIROSLAV SVEJDA Also October 27, 30 Sung in Czech with English Superitiles

Cast: Sundine", Brett ", Cook, Clark", Fox, Svejda", Burden, Rideout, Jedlicka", Burden, Rideout, Jedlicka", Production: Mackerras, Mansouri/Soederstroem, Bauer-Ecsy, Stenner, Munn The productions made passable by generous grants from the Carol Franciback Forustation and the Berundshoon Pre-Overal Basic 1002-227, 30

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This Wook At Can Francisco O.

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THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY				
21	The Makropulos Case 8 pm	23 J/L Turandot 8 pm	24	25	26 Turandot 8 pm	27 A/C The Makropulos Case 8 pm Meistersinger Insight 6 pm Herbst Theatre				

Superstar Eva Marton

Empress Marton

by Paul Thomason

pera is about conveying emotion through the human voice. And when a singer does this consistently, singer does this consistently, thrilling audiences night after night, sending them home emotionally spent, that singer becomes a superstar.

Today there are alarming-

Today there are alarmingly few such singers, but Eva
Marton is one of them. Recently Marton has been
singing the title role of Puccini's Turandot with the San
Francisco Opera, a co-production with Chicago's Lyric
Opera designed by David
Hockney. The role is particularly close to the Hungarian
soprano's heart.
"Turandot and I are one,"

soprano's heart.
"Thrandot and I are one,"
said Marton in a recent interview. "It brought me absolute
success. With Turandot I
reached everything. I can't believe it's been ten years since
I sang the role for the first
time."

I sang the role for the first time."
Marton, 50, had never considered singing Puccini's icy princess until the world's reigning Turandot, Birgit Nilsson, told her she could do it during rehearsals for a now legendary run of Strauss's Die Frau ohne Schatten at the Metropolitan Opera in October 1981.

"It was right before the curtain went up for the second act," Marton explains.. "I



Turandot and I are one," opera diva Eva (Photo: Marty Sohl) Marton's memories of the Met are not all happy.

that opened in 1983. To say she was a success in the role is a colossal understatement. But, despite the kudos, she is brutally honest; her Met per-formances of the role (in Zef-firelli's production) she in-stantly dismisses: "Those

were not good. A Feel for 'Frau'

Marton says that her first performance of Strauss's *Die Frau ohne Schatten* at the Met on October 12, 1981, was a very special one. That night, she says, pushed her art to a new level of expertise. She was surprised and fearful of

her own success. Legendary soprano Leonie Rysanek had "owned" the role of the Empress in Frau, and the Met management, fearful of a demonstration against a virtually unknown singer in the part, had plainclothes police-

part, had plainclothes policemen strategically placed throughout the audience "I had sung so many performances, and had sung so well before then, but that night," she shakes her head and smiles, "something happened. I don't know exactly what it was but my heart it. what it was, but my heart opened. For me it was magic,

really magic."

For anyone in the audience that evening it was magic, too. Her rich, warm voice ic, too. Her rich, warm voice soared effortlessly to the Ds above high C. It seemed she could do anything vocally, and do it with ease. A largely gay audience, which had come to cheer its beloved Birgit Nilsson in a new role, and to see an upstart fall on her face, went stark raving mad over Marton at the end of the performance. performance

Mad at the Met

But Marton's memories of But Marton's memories of the Met are not all happy. She is still smarting from having Wagner's Ring taken away from her. "I had a signed contract for three years," she volunteers, "but they told me Levine wanted (Hildegard) Behrens, and I did not have a contract with not have a contract with Deutsche Grammophon (with whom Levine and the Met eventually recorded the Ring). "It was horrible, horrible. I broke every contract with them," she said.

Fortunately she has only happy memories of the San Francisco Opera. In 1977 she debuted here with her first

Aida in the U.S. "The next day when I opened the newspaper I was in heaven," she says. "The audience didn't

says. "The audience didn't know anything about me. I was young, had no publicity, nobody pushing me. But they accepted my work and me."

Since then she has gradually essayed most of the big dramatic soprano roles in opera and is looking forward to singing Wagner's Tristan und Isolde for the first time next year.

next year.
For Marton, the text of an opera is the most important thing. "Every great composes it is a build the much the build opera is the most important thing. "Every great composer used the text to build the music," she says. "If you use the text well, you sing well." However, when a colleague told her she was not treating Hofmannsthal's text to Elektra the way the author wanted it, Marton snapped, "Tell me how you spoke with Hofmannsthal (who died in 1929) about this. When I am performing, the text is my text." But she values people from whom she can learn, like conductor Klaus Tennstedt. "My God that man is a genius!" And she remembers once staying up all night listening to a live Met performance of Nilsson as Turandot — 17 times in a row. She also greatly admires Kirsten Flagstad.

"We live only a few hours on the stage and then the next day we have to fight again," she says. "When the audience remembers what we have done, then we live forever in their memories. Thank you for remembering."

Editor's Note: Eva Marton sings Turandot again at the Opera House on Oct. 29. The performance will be filmed for broadcast later this year.

was on my knees and Birgit was standing over me. She looked down and said, 'Have you sung Turandot?''' Marton says she looked up and said, "No" to which Nilsson responded, "You can sing it." The very next day the Vienna State Opera called Marton and offered her the part of Turandot in a new production

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OCTOBER 21, 1993

PAGE 37

DOIVOOR







Art



Canal Street (1990-92), acrylic on linen, 72" x 96", by Martin Wong

Funky, Sexy Nostalgia at Art Institute

Wong's World

by Roberto Friedman

he Chinatown Paintne Chinatown Paint-ings, an exhibition of work by acclaimed New York painter Martin Wong, which just opened at San Francisco Art opened at San Francisco Art Institute's Walter/McBean Gallery, serves as a sort of homecoming for the artist. Wong was born and raised here, and most of the paintings in the show are lively, spirited evocations of the Chinatown he remembers from his childhood and imagines of the past.

his childhood and imagines of the past.

Although he could be con-sidered a social realist, Wong does not limit himself to straightforward representa-tion. A painting like Chinese New Year Parade (1992) takes as its subject the pa-rade's dargon dargers and takes as its subject the parade's dragon dancers and makes of the scene a wild, psychedelic fantasy. To him, as a child, Wong says, the dragons "looked like a cross between the Graf Zeppelin and an Xmas tree." About the painting, one of the exhibition's largest at 84" x 120," he admits, "It's not really possible to do a realistic version of something so imaginary to be something so imaginary to be something so imaginary to begin with!"

Still, the artist takes as his

starting point the great social realist WPA murals of the '30s and '40s. He wanted to '30s and '40s. He wanted to create a body of work which would look like paintings you might come across while cleaning out a cellar in Chinatown: old-fashioned street scenes, the buildings authentic in detail down to the Chinese characters lettered on nese characters lettered on their balconies, a time and place before today's ubiqui-tous fluorescent signage took

Sexual Subtext

Appropriate to the period, Appropriate to the period, the somewhat risque subtext of Wong's paintings is undercover, though still present to the observant. His love of the male body is apparent in much of the work, from the kung-fu fighter foregrounded in Incident at Waverly Lane (1992) to the shirtless, muscular title figure of Bruce Lee Visits the Afterworld (1991).

Even more telling is the street scene in the spectacular Grant Avenue, San Francisco (190-92). Tear yourself away from the festive decor and rampant street life, and in the bottom right corner of the capus you might potice. canvas, you might notice a man eyeing another man in a muscle shirt, a young beauty simultaneously sucking a pop-sicle and holding a cigarette.

Homoerotic tip-offs abound. Saturday Night (1992), inspired by a painting from the school of Fontainebleu, features two Fontainebleu, features two women fondling each other in the bath; In the Studio (1992), the artist's "feminist statement," presents a male model, nude but for shoes and socks, posing for women artists; and Sanja Cake (1992) shows two firemen engaged. artists; and Sanja Cake (1992) shows two firemen engaged in a liplock, profiled in a brick heart. Previous paintings of kissing firemen have gained for Wong a measure of notoriety in New York quite incommensurate with the work's lighthearted, romantic feel.

The most explicit sex

The most explicit sex scene of all is also the most "undercover erotic," in a painting of a bottle of Hopsing Lung Oyster Sauce



Incident at Waverly Lane (1992), acrylic on canvas, 96" x 42", by Martin Wong.

(1992). The artist insists that the oysters on the label are depicted mid-orgy. Still, one could be excused for missing these paintings' erotic underpinnings, for there is so much to marvel at, so much finely detailed ornament and street life on the works' surfaces.

Theatre Brat

Theatre Brat

The theatrical nature of Wong's paintings, as well as their psychedelic verve, can be traced to his involvement, back in hippie days, with the Angels of Light. A commune of bearded drag queens, the Angels were based in trippy Haight/Ashbury, where they performed elaborate musicales with Busby Berkeleytype pageantry. Martin Wong painted the sets. This history of hyperglitter and over-thetop visuals explains a lot about his vivid, stimulating style. And, as Wong points out, the subjects of his Chinatown paintings are really not that different from those stage sets of bygone days: the buildings on Grant Avenua are, after all, standard brick tenements all gussied up in drag as faux pagodas.

The opening for The Chi-

are, after all, standard brick tenements all gussied up in drag as faux pagodas.

The opening for The Chinatown Paintings was not only a homecoming, it was also a walking mix of characters from all periods of the artist's colorful life thus far. Here were friends from his days with the Angels of Light and Cockettes shows; there was SFAI's art school crowd. Here were graffiti artists from Wong's now defunct Museum of Graffiti Art; there were companions from his stint in Humboldt County. Add to this diverse collection of subcultures his family, many of whom still live in San Francisco: his mother with her Instamatic, happily taking snapshots. All this against a backdrop of Wong's fantastic Deco Chinatown, part picture postcard, part hallucination. An extraordinary show, well worth a visit to the Art Institute. You might stop off for dim sum along the way.

The Chinatown Paintings Walter/McBean Gallery, SFAI, through Nov. 13 771-7020

OCTOBER 20-26

Oakland Ballet Debuts New 'Romeo'

Young at Heart

by Eric Hellman

t's a pleasure to report that the Oakland Ballet, under the artistic and choreographic direction of founder Ronn Guidi, has produced a modest, adamantly youthful version of the ballet Romeo and Juliet. Paradoxically let Romeo and Juliet. Paradoxically, however, the production's artistic innocence, encountered on Saturday night at Oakland's Paramount Theatre, is the source of both considerable charm and disappointment

Conceptually, the Guidi production is a faithful telling production is a faithful telling of the star-crossed lovers' tale; there are no radical narrative or character interpolations, and there is nothing to distinguish this "world premiere" (a rather hyperbolic description) from a hundred other Romeos presented by regional dance troupes.

Pretty But Bloodless

Visually, Oakland's new Romeo is appealing and often pretty: muted earth tones, dusty grape, and shades of brown predominate. The set design, by Ron Steger, and costumes, by Catherine Thiele, are, respectively, so sleepily Northern Italian and so colorful that it's easy to for

Thiele, are, respectively, so sleepily Northern Italian and so colorful that it's easy to forget this ballet is, after all, a tragedy. In fact, the absence of grandeur and the lack of any profound awareness of Romeo's "tale of woe" are the two greatest weaknesses of the Oakland production.

Similarly, the dancers in Guidi's Romeo seem to have little feel for the artistry, the weight, the gravitas that this bloody drama requires. Mario Alonzo and Michael Lowe are equally puckish as young Romeo's best friends, but when it comes to their death scenes and their reaction to the shock of death, both boys simply wither and melt. Most perplexingly, the relentlessly cheerful and baby-faced Omar Shabazz is miscast as Paris, Juliet's unwanted but officially betrothed.

Veteran Oakland dancer Abra Rudisill delivers the production's single most impressive performance as Juliet, emphasizing the transition of a carefree adolescent to an impassioned and ultimately despondent lover. Unfortunately, this Juliet mostly dances alone (emotionally and dramatically), because her Romeo (Ben Barnhart) is so busy concentrating on just getting through the steps. Barnhart represents this staging's "youthfulness" at its lowest ebt; he is simply too young and too inexperienced as a dancer to convey as a dancer to convey Romeo's passion. Director Guidi's approach

Director Guidi's approach to the choreography for this production is perfectly serviceable (he manages to tell the story in movement without any overt gaffes). But, similar to the decor, costumes, and dramatic interpretations, the choreography is flat and tepid.

Unrapturous

For example, the ballroom scene (one of the music's gut-grabbing highlights) is normally a ricn, choreographic tapestry defined by thick tension and the desire for revenge. Oddly, Guidi almost dispenses with the ballroom dance altogether, reducing it to a sconforgatter, social dance altogether, reducing it to a soon-forgotten social twirl. And in the critical balcony pas de deux for Romeo and Juliet, the choreography reveals an inane, frothy athleticism. One wonders, did anyone bother *listening* to Prokofiev's huge, surging, and deeply rapturous score?

All in all, this Romeo will probably travel well, meeting with much success when Oak-land Ballet tours the Ameri-can provinces during the coming months - and years

This Romeo contains all the ingredients of Shake-speare's classic story, and re-gardless of the orchestra's painfully off-key, underre-hearsed performance on Sat-



Abra Rudisill, partnered here with Ben Barnhart as Romeo, delivers a standout performance as Juliet in the Oakland Ballet's Romeo and Juliet.

urday night, there is always Prokofiev's glorious score. But despite these inevitables, and because of the production's considerable, varied youthfulness, this *Romeo* doesn't pack much of a punch. The passion's cold and the blood, well, it just isn't dripping. dripping.

Dance Theatre of Harlem

In addition to seeing Oak-land's new Romeo and Juliet last week, I also saw Dance Theatre of Harlem at Berke-ley's Zellerbach Hall on Fri-day night. These days, DTH

often seems to parody its for-mer self, having lost the snap and classic elegance of years past. But Friday's perforpast. But Fridays performance, which included a mostly unmemorable, meandering new piece called Footprints Dressed in Red by Garth Fagan, was an exception to this recent precedent.

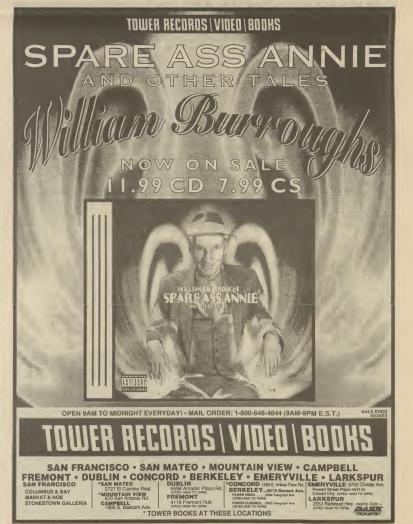
The dance that sent shock waves of pleasure through the audience was Geoffrey Holder's Dougla, a ballet that concerns the marriage ceremony among a mixed race of people, the Hindu and African, in Trinidad. Transposed to a

fundamentally different cultural context, *Dougla* expresses a gravity and drama similar to Bronislava Nijinska's *Les Noces*.

But unlike its thematic pre-But unlike its thematic pre-decessor, *Dougla* reveals a mating ritual that is un-abashedly and, at times, overtly sexual; further, the choreography is full of won-derful accents for the dancers' hips, hands, and heads. Among many compelling per-formances, Patrick Johnson, dancing the featured role of the groom, was absolutely rivthe groom, was absolutely riveting. ▼



Checking for a heart beat is Ben Barnhart as the youthful Romeo, while Abra Rudisill as Juliet enjoys his attentions.



Leavitt

even asking for a release from Spender. Then again, Spender probably would never have granted a release. It now appears unlikely that Spender will sue for libel in Britain. In any case, his ugly allegations have cast a pall over the reception of Leavitt's latest work. It was my delicate task to bring up the sticky issue when I met with the 32-year-old novelist during his recent visit to San Francisco on a book tour.

Roberto Friedman: While England Sleeps is a real departure for you. The characters aren't privileged, middle-class American gays. You present a homosexual relationship in the context of the times, the '30s.

David Leavitt: makes it work is that the nar-rator has lived in America for 30 years, and he's looking back on a culture that was much more reticent about sexuality, from the perspec-tive of a much more open American culture. Americans American culture. Americans tend to be much more willing to write about sex than English people. The sexual mores of the time in England were very different from what they are today. I learned this from J.R. Ackerley's memoir My Father, Myself. He writes about a boyfriend he had, a merchant marine who became revolted when he gave him a blowjob. It's



"I think American writers these days, and Americans in general, have become very provincial.

true, in those days oral sex was considered really per-verse! Fucking was consid-ered par for the course between men.

Now that you're living away from the States, in Florence, has your perspective changed?

Well, I'm trying to become more global in my conscious-ness. I think American writers these days, and Americans

David Leavitt gives his fans some shoulder action in his latest publicity pic.
(Photo: Marion Ettlinger)

in general, have become very provincial. There isn't much consciousness of a world out-side America. It's particularly true of American gay writers. It used to be that writers always went abroad, it was con-

It used to be that writers always went abroad, it was considered a rite of passage. I also think there's a real gay provincialism in America, and I've only become conscious of it as a result of living abroad. For example, John (The Irreversible Decline of Eddie Socket) Weir does this interview with me in the latest Advocate. He was very perplexed by the fact that I had gone to live in Europe, and he felt that I must somehow feel deprived being away from the New York gay community, which is very comforting because everybody thinks the same way. And I said, that's exactly the point!

No fewer than three charac-ters in the new book are writers: the narrator, his Aunt Constance, and friend Nigel, a poet. Were they re-flections of their author?

To some extent. I was very much basing the characters on that community of Isherwood, Auden, and Spender in the '30s. Also, writers are peo-ple who tell stories; therefore, it seems to me if you're going to do a first person narration, the character ought to be a writer, because otherwise why would he be telling the story? The whole question of where fiction ends and life begins is one that we are find-ing ourselves increasingly in-capable of ignoring.

The England in your book seems to me a very literary England.

Publisher's Weekly compared the relationship between Brian and Edward to Maurice, which was not on my mind when I wrote it, even though Forster is my fa-

The characters do have this "type" quality: the earnest, naive working-class type, the sensitive writer type.

But I think they defy type in important ways. The evil, predatory upper-class man and the basically heterosexual and the basically neterosexual working-class man who's being used by him: that, I think, is the cliche. What I did is reverse the roles: the working-class boy is in many ways much more evolved in his own sexual identity than his unper-class lover.

own sexual identity than his upper-class lover.

In '30s England, it was almost iconic that upper-class men fell in love with working-class boys. In America, this may well play itself out in terms of race. I was thinking of the famous Mapplethorpe photographs and Essex Hemphill's really interesting essay about how these photos exemplify the ways in photos exemplify the ways in which black men have been objectified and demeaned as mere sexual animals with huge dicks. I think he really had a point. Now, it doesn't make me like the photos any less. But I do know some bourgeois white men who are bourgeois white men who are constantly chasing after black men in much the same way that English upper-class men were chasing after guardsmen, policemen, bobbies. There was a whole community of basically heterosexual policemen in London in the '30s who were constantly '30s who were constantly available for sex.

I need to ask you about the Stephen Spender flap.

There's not much I can say

It seems to me you were not particularly well-served by the Viking legal staff.

There should have been an acknowledgment. Spender is angry because he doesn't like the way that I have used his life. The only response I can give is to say that I'm sorry, but what I have used is his life, not his words, not his imagination, simply the facts. In the Post piece he said, "It would be all right if Tolstoy used my material" It's obvious that what bothers him is the homosexuality. He also became very angry last year about a biography that was published about him.

Ironically, because he There should have been an

Ironically, because he crowed about it so much, that book wound up selling more copies than it would have oth-erwise. He has never denied his homosexuality, but I think he is very determined to con-trol its presentation. The trol its presentation. The irony is that if he hadn't called so much attention to it, I don't know if anyone reading the novel would have ever thought of my character as him.

as him.

I never denied that certain facts of his life were the origin of the story, but history presents the facts and a novelist makes them come alive. That's what I was trying to do. In the process, I changed the characters so much. Brian really bears very little resemblance to Spender.

It was a bad call. I think

It was a bad call. I think Viking should have been more conscious of what an more conscious of what an irascible figure Spender is at the age of 84. The lesson I've learned is, if you're going to write a historical novel, base it on the life of someone who's dead!

Spender really hates the book, and I think in England book, and I think in England he's going to try as hard as he can to destroy it. And I can't stop him from doing that, using the press. I think he has a sense of this evil, outside agitator coming in and adding insult to injury, after that horrible biography, by impugning the character of the great Sir Stephen Spender. It'll be interesting to see how that plays itself out in terms of the reviews and response when reviews and response when it's published in England. Of course, the irony is that it will probably make the book a bestseller.

"There's no such thing as bad publicity."

Exactly. Once you add explicit homosexual sex into the brew, it makes people much more sensitive. If I had written about any other aspect of Spender's life, I can't imagine he would have reacted this

It's not as if he's in the closet.

But he's married, he has children and grandchildren. He has written about his ho-mosexuality in very vague ways as something that was in his youth, bisexuality, and then he chose to become het-erosexual. I think that is at the theft of the story belonging to him is kind of a smoke screen. I think a lot of other things, but none that I can say.

"The lesson
I've learned is,
if you're going to write a historical novel, base it on the life of who's dead!'

What are you up to now, in Italy?

We have this anthology coming out in January, The Penguin Book of Gay Short Stories, which I think is going Stories, which I think is going to be very good. And I've started a new novel, in part inspired by this whole mess with Spender in that it's about the ways in which fiction writtens which started in the started of the started in the started of the started in th ers appropriate other people's lives and the consequences of that.



OutWrite '93

elists, historians, editors, poets, pornographers, children's
book authors, critics, and reviewers. The wide range of
genres represented was
matched by plenty of attention to gender.

If numbers have meaning,
one of the hits of the weekend was the public conversation between novelist Leslie
Feinberg and poet Minnie
Bruce Pratt. Reading from
their writing, openly reflecting upon their personal relationship, and answering questions about their butch and
femme identities, the two tions about their butch and femme identities, the two writers not only drew one of the largest audiences of the weekend, but also gave the audio recording company, which was selling tapes of all the sessions, their best business

Final Solution

Activist/poet Chrystos de-livered the first of two open-ing keynote addresses. She spoke of her writing in relation to her activism as a Menominee Indian. "This is a Menominee Indian. "This is a particular honor for me for a first nations' lesbian activist," she began, "because I'd expect that many of you don't know about my work, which I define as activism; writing happens in the cracks of my life. My books are shed snake skins of my fierce journey toward justice and safety for my people."

Out as a "proud femme dyke for 27 years," Chrystos



Legendary porn auteur, editor, anthologist John Preston. (Photo: Gorden Fiedor)

said that her activism on be-half of Native Americans has

said that her activism on behalf of Native Americans has separated her "profoundly from the queer community who, for the most part, are indifferent to our prisoners of war, the conditions of our lives, and the facts of our existence."

Citing the highest infant mortality in the Western Hemisphere, the highest teenage suicide rate in the world, an average life span of 46 years for Native Nations women, as well as the devastation that AIDS and cancer have caused in gay and lesbian communities of color,

Samuel R. Delany demonstrated the the
limitations of
presumptions
about what is
characteristic
of gay experience.



'Listen up!'' Craig Hickman performs as part of the Outspoken Literary Series at OutWrite '93.

"visionary force." Highlighting the need for anger rather than bitterness, as well as a capacity for joy, Gomez called for a political eye. "Using our political eye," said Gomez "we can approach our writing — and, just as important, the business of writing — with integrity."

tegrity."

The final keynote address, given by science fiction specialist Samuel R. Delany, challenged the notion of gay identity. Offering a selection of stories centered around "uncharacteristic" gay and lesbian experiences, Delany demonstrated the limitations of presumations about what of presumptions about what

is characteristic of gay experience.
"Deviance is deviance," said Delany, arguing that gay identity be seen as a political strategy rather than a reality, a way to fight the oppression that is homophobia, rather than a simple label to fit the vast population that is, by some definition, queer. Asserting that the sexual experience remains "largely outside language" and that "what is accepted into language is always coded and policed," Delany left his audience with the challenge of breaking through those limitations. And that should give people plenty to write about, at least until Out-Write '94. V

is characteristic of gay experi-



Novelist Judith Katz reads from her work at the Outspoken Literary series at OutWrite '93. (Photo: Nancy Bout

Able Substitute

When scheduled speaker playwright Tony Kushner was unable to attend due to production delays in London, he sent a greeting that was read to the audience. John Preston, introduced as "America's most beloved pornographer," stepped in to give a moving talk about his own journey to discovering his personal voice as a writer and as a gay man.

The wide range of

genres represented was matched by plenty of attention to gender.

Chrystos said that her writing is rooted in "a desperation of

is rooted in "a desperation of survival that sees privilege as a barrier to our unity. I don't write to buy a BMW or to be famous. I write, literally, against the enormous machine of erasure and genocide that is this country's Final Solution for Native Americans."

Turning her attention to trends in gay activism, Chrystos said, "As we queers become more politically active for groups other than ourselves, we will lose more and more of our complacency, and the U.S. will have a Final Solution for queers as well. I am at war with heterosexual colonialization as surely as I

colonialization as surely as I am at war against greed and ignorance."

Able Substitute

personal voice as a writer and as a gay man.

Like Chrystos, Preston talked about his writing in relation to his activism. "I found my voice in gay activism in the late '60s, and it was, finally, my own voice," said Preston. "I became one of the first wave of people who worked to establish a community out of the rubble of our personal experience."

nity out of the rubble of our personal experience."
Driven to action by a lover's suicide and "the ruin of the lives of gay men," Preston said that "the silence that enabled those deaths — and that destruction — was intolerable. I no longer gave a fuck whether my voice was the right kind or if my actions were proper. I did it because the cost of not doing — was a the cost of not doing " was too high."

Political Eye

At the Closing Plenary Session, lesbian writer of col-or Jewelle Gomez urged writ-ers to follow the example of Nobel Prize winner Toni Morrison and write with a



BAY AREA REPORTER

OCTOBER 21, 1993

Gays for Kids

Kindred in spirit, but different in style, is Showtime's Ready or Not, whose upcoming season premiere may be the best gay-positive show targeted at kids since Pee Wee was a part of the CBS morning line-up. Now in its third season, Ready or Not follows the lives of Amanda and Busy, two 11-year-old best friends living in a fictitious Canadian city. Busy is a straight tomboy, insecure Canadian city. Busy is a straight tomboy, insecure about boys. Amanda is more feminine, but equally unsure. They sign up for karate lessons and are immediately pegged by Neil, their cute instructor, as potential stars. Amanda, noticing how Neil



Sandra Bernhard does her Macaulay Culkin imitation in this glam shot.

(Photo: Douglas Keeve

holds Busy's leg during an ex ercise, convinces Busy that Neil is interested in her, which leads Busy to fantasize

which leads Busy to lantasize about a romance.
One day, while waiting for their bus to pull away, they notice Neil talking with a friend as he unlocks his bicycle. As the girls watch in as-tonishment, Neil and his friend plant a quick but clear-ly romantic kiss on each oth-er's lips.

What follows is an insight-

ful, parallel coming-out experience as the girls move away from confusion and denial. In a funny, realistic scene, they try to figure out why two men would be kissing if they weren't gay. Next, they spend an afternoon doing home-work in front of the TV, lis-tening to outrageously homo-phobic remarks from two of Busy's three brothers, one of whom was in Neil's class in

busys three brothers, one of whom was in Neil's class in high school. Tellingly, a third brother, the youngest, comes to Neil's defense, chastising his brothers for their prejudiced, outdated thoughts.

Once the girls admit to themselves the truth about Neil, they embark on the road to acceptance by asking each other all kinds of questions about homosexuality like "How do gays find each other?" and "Since I like him, does that mean I'm gay?" Ready or Not is a well-produced message sitcom in the gentle Wonder Years mode.

Confronting Prejudice

Showtime follows Ready or Not with the season premiere of Chris Cross, another youth-oriented sitcom that, amazingly, also focuses on homophobia. In this one, students at a stuffy boarding school are asked to write es-

Really Gay TV

If you like your TV about, for, and by openly gay people — and you don't live in Manhattan where there's gay cable every night of the week —

the pickings are pretty slim.
The locally produced
Lavender Lounge just began Lavender Lounge just began a new season with an hour-long recap of this June's Gay Freedom Day Parade down Market Street. Despite technical problems, including fuzzy video and lousy sound, the show contures several the show captures several moments that you probably missed along the parade route. Host Mark Kliem is helped immeasurably by local comics Gail Hand and Amy Boyd. This episode was a great relief after surfing past two seasons' worth of exhibitionistic dancers in their underwear.

Tricks, out of LA, takes the Love Connection/Studs formula and lets gay men have a crack at the lowest of lowbrow TV genres. Four guys, all young and attractive, guys, all young and attractive, go out with each other, then report back to host David Van Chaney, who leads them through embarrassing accounts of their dates. Van Chaney mugs and cackles way out of proportion to anything that's happening on the set. In between game, see set. In between game seg-ments, just in case the audi-

Lavender Lounge host Mark Kleim in all his sartorial splendor (Photo: Rick Gerharter)

ence is getting bored, disco dancers jump around on a platform behind the contes-

You can't blame Tricks for imitating those fascinating, trashy, hetero dating shows. Humor that comes from ordinary people simply letting loose and gabbing is endlessly watchable, and if you forget how inane Van Chaney's questions are, the four guys, who are approprinately nervous and surprisingately nervous and surprising-ly low-key, display moments of genuine feeling and wit. You'll never see that on

Finally, Network Q, the monthly video subscription

service, has just celebrated its first anniversary. Now hosted by the engaging David Surber (Q's producer), the September issue showed tremendous improvement over last year's shows. Set in Seattle during the Northwest Gay and Lesbian Summer Sports Festival, segments included coverage of Angels in America, the efforts of Washington state gays to ward off Lon Mabon (the Oregon homophobe behind Measure 9), and an interview with gay author Martin Duberman. Network Q deserves a spot on work Q deserves a spot on the cable dial. (Note: Check your local listings for the times and channels of these shows.)

— Paul Bollwinkel

says on various forms of prejudice by a teacher who turns out to be gay. The students jot down anonymous topics which are put in a box and then selected at random. Chris, a tall, blond teenag-

er, is forced to confront his

Ready or Not's upcoming season season
premiere may
be the best
gay-positive
show targeted
at kids since Pee Wee was a part of the CBS morning line-up.

feelings about an older gay brother when he picks gay rights, a topic we see the teacher, Mr. Koufax,

surreptitiously add to the mix. His best buddy, Cross, a black school disc jockey, helps him understand bias by stating that "if you told me you were gay, you'd still be my best friend."

Channel surfing makes it clear that, while the waters are changing, the sharks are never far away. Men kissing may have made it to a premi-um cable channel show, but um cable channel show, but don't forget how much trouble LA Law had continuing its lesbian story line a few years back. And if you want a cold slap in the face, don't miss Pat Robertson's 700 Club, which continues it relentless drone every weekday morning.

Ready or Not Showtime (Channel 10 in San Francisco); Sunday, Oct. 24, 5 p.m.

Chris Cross Showtime (Channel 10 in San Francisco); Sunday, Oct. 24, 5:30



Hear no evil: Roseanne Arnold is pushing the lesbian/gay envelope on her highly rated, prime-time sitcom, Roseanne



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Colin Nutley's 'House of Angels'

Swedish Modern

by Erin Blackwell

olin Nutley's House of Angels feels like something a Holly-wood studio might've produced before World War II. It's a joyous attack on the hypocrisy, greed, and ignorance that can divide and destroy a community. And won-der of wonders in 1993, it's not cynical; in fact, it's hope-ful. It might even be called

While Hollywood is too busy blowing up bridges to build any, British director Colin Nutley, working in Sweden, has orchestrated a folk tale that reconciles urban decadence with rural decay, queer proclivities with straight hypocrisy and young blood with old secrets.

American viewers can only envy the film's implicit intergenerational trust, which allows people on opposite sides of a fence to still try and communicate, even if they have to yell at each other to do so. Handguns are blissfully absent from the screen, which means dramatic suspense is raised above the level of will he/won't he pull the trigger. The violence that does go down is psychologically motivated and related to individual personality - it's not ran-

al personanty
dom.
More unbelievable still is
the presence in this film of a
value system, that rare and
despised thing, and that it exists not through making anyone a villain, but by showing
the interests that motivate the interests that motivate each character's actions. Call it old hat, but this film is unremittingly good-natured.

Heir Apparent?

Angels Farm is an 18th-century house with extremely valuable forest lands attached. Everybody's wondering when grizzled old patriarch Eric Zander is going to kick the bucket. Since he has no known heir, the common wisdom is that rich farmer Axel Flogfalt will snap the acreage up at auction before the corpse is even cold. But things don't work out that way.

way.

An heiress, Eric's blond bombshell granddaughter, is driven to the funeral on the Swedish equivalent of a Harley by an Alice Cooper look-alike. This exotic duo then proceeds to upset the tenor of this hidebound rural community.

What's great about Fanny, besides her name, is that she really cares for the grandfa-ther she never got to meet. In



Fanny (Helena Bergstrom, left) and her cross-dressing boyfriend Zac (Rikard Wolff) cause a commotion in a small Swedish town when she arrives to claim an inheritance.

one swift economical montage, Nutley establishes the story's fourth dimension, which mere mortals experiwhich mere mortals experi-ence emotionally as genera-tions. Cutting from a flash-back of old Eric on his moped to a portrait of his daughter Alice, to the tear-stained face of Fanny, the se-quence eloquently evokes the desire to remember things

past. So, while the film's surface content is the war even-tually declared by the status quo on the upstarts, the core of the story is a quest for ori-gins. Swedish modern Fanny Zander comes to town in black leather to reconnect with a way of life, with a time, with a history whose consequence she is and whose secret she must uncover if

she's to move forward into a future at peace with the past

Comic Depth

This all sounds very heavy, and it is, but the heavier the subject the happier we are when it's treated not lightly, but comically. Nutley manages to make fun of just about every member of the community by intercutting scenes that consistently take us by surprise. This is the stuff of farce, and Nutley jiggles the disparate elements of his zigzagging narrative with a precision and depth that are only occasionally marred by facile juxtapositions.

The cast is great. With This all sounds very heavy,

juxtapositions.

The cast is great. With wonderful names like Viveka Seldahl and Sven Wollter, they produce the kind of ensemble acting that puts Hollywood to shame. And, as for off-screen community building, this is a film that anybody can take anybody to see and enjoy. House of Angels is rated sex-positive. ▼

House of Angels Bridge Theatre 751-3212

Performance

Tom Ammiano's 'Mincing Words'

Neither Delicate Nor Affected

by Jerry Metzker

lthough Tom Ammiano calls his newest show Mincing show Mincing Words, he is neither delicate nor affected. This 20-year veteran of stand-up comedy barrels through his newest routine with the energy of his or the affect of the standard of th gy of a kid on the playground. He crammed a week's worth of jokes into 60 minutes in his

ne crammed a week's worth of jokes into 60 minutes in his recent performance at the Climate Theatre as part of this year's Solo Mio Festival.

Not following any particular thematic line gives Ammiano ample room to maneuver through the absurdities, difficulties, and incongruities of politics, people, and in particular, his own life, which includes fatherhood, his lover, his Italian roots in New Jersey, and a recent trip to Japan. Of special interest are his experiences as the gay president of the San Francisco School Board, depicted visually on stage with an inflatable representation of Edward Munch's The Scream, wearing a boa.

His relationship with the

ing a boa.

His relationship with the media is a source of constant wisecracks. To wit, Ammiano recalled an incident where a reporter followed him across reporter followed him across the country to ask him whether or not he approved of using the word "penis" in the classroom.

Ammiano's comedy is not exclusively from a gay per-spective nor does it focus on any specific issue. Instead, he

offers an evening of entertainment that is generally gay-oriented without resorting to stereotypes. Many of his jokes are the kind that straight comics used to preface with a phrase like, "I overheard two gay guys talking ... " With gay comics like Ammiano in the mainstream, however, the the mainstream, however, the same jokes can be told straight, so to speak, from the

straight, so to speak, from the horse's mouth.

After a short series of barbs on the papacy, for instance, Ammiano concludes with, "Miss Pope may be infallible, but she is definitely not flawless or divine." And Sally Jessy Raphael is skewered as "one of the legions of women who look like men."

Other jokes are more unities.

Other jokes are more universal: "I was in Toronto.
Toronto is an Indian word for many, many, many, many white people."

I do confess to feeling a lit-

tle disappointed at this performance. I always think of an individual comic as part of an evening's entertainment rather than an evening in and rather than an evening in and of itself. At 60 minutes, Ammiano's routine is long for an individual; however, he did leave me wanting more.

And Ammiano's barbs are coated in gentility. He never poses a threat to the objects of his insults but rather makes merry at the ideas rather than the substance behind them. For an evening of sweet and fluffy fun, Ammiano is certainly the ticket.





The Score

Spikes Win SCORE '93

San Francisco's Spikes won SCORE '93, the October 8-11 International Gay and Lesbian Football Association Championships, in Los Angeles. The championship match featured the Spikes edging out the Los Angeles Cobras, 1-0. Stonewall, the British team from London, won third place, defeating last year's IGLFA winners, the San Diego Sparks, 3-2.

Tournament MVP award went to San Francisco Spike John Davis. According to San Francisco Spike Carlo Togni, after a referee announced his impending retirement due to his advancing AIDS, Davis offered his MVP trophy to the referee. The referee, a Canadian, had a history of refereeing IGLFA tournaments.

Final Tournament Results Follows

Round Robin Group A
San Diego-Denver 2-0
Denver-Berlin 1-5
San Diego-Berlin 5-0 Group B LA Cobras-Boston 3-1 Boston-New York 1-6 LA Cobras-New York 3-1

Group C SF Spikes-Atlanta 4-2 Atlanta-Seattle 1-3 SF Spikes-Seattle 5-0

Group D London-Midatlantic 12-1 Midatlantic-LA Suns 0-13 London-LA Suns 4-3

Quarterfinals San Diego-Seattle 3-0 SF Spikes-New York 1-0 LA Cobras-Berlin 2-0 London-LA Suns 3-0

Semifinals LA Cobras-San Diego 3-2 SF Spikes-London 1-0

Finals Finals
3rd place match
London-San Diego 3-1
1st place match
SF Spikes-LA Cobras 1-0



Part volleyball, part tennis, and part soccer — but all-foot-action rules in the sport of footbag. Portland's Jeff ''Animal'' Johnson flies through the air at the I-Dig Doubles Footbag Tournament.

Footbag Action

"Footbag appeals to a variety of non-establishment type folks," said Bay Area Footbag League President Brent Welch, who added that some of the top players were lesbians and gay men, and didn't drop their names, "but the level of play has really amped up in the past few years."

Footbag, a derivation of "Hacky Sack," is a game combining foot-eye co-ordination, the court play of tennis and the bump-set-spike action of volleyball. Interested footbaggers got a chance to try out the game at the I-Dig Doubles Net Tournament and Festival Maria (Conservation).

the game at the I-Dig Doubles Net Tournament and Festival, held at Marina Green last weekend. Winners in the Men's Division were Ken Schultz and Randy Molder, Women's Division winners were Jody Welch and Trisha George, and BAFL President Welch and wife Jody Welch won the mixed doubles. The Tournament was divided into pro level competition, and a pro-lament was divided into pro level competition, and a pro-am tournament of 26 teams, where beginners got a chance to team up with the

If you want to play locally, BAFL will provide you with playing times and locations. Interested footbaggers should contact the BAFL President Welch at 415-968-

Women's Flag Football

October 17 — Fear This defeated the Avengers 29-0. QB Vicky threw TD passes to recievers Linda, Kim, and Jill. Jill also snagged an intercep-

tion that she turned into a

tion that she turned into a score.

In game two, the Girlfriends defeated the Weekend Warriors 21-0. QB Cinda threw two TD passed, and also scored on a 99 yard run.

In the day's final game, the Rebels took on We Came To Play. Scoring on a variety of QB plays and interceptions, WCTP prevailed, defeating the Rebels 24-8.

— Maureen Hogan

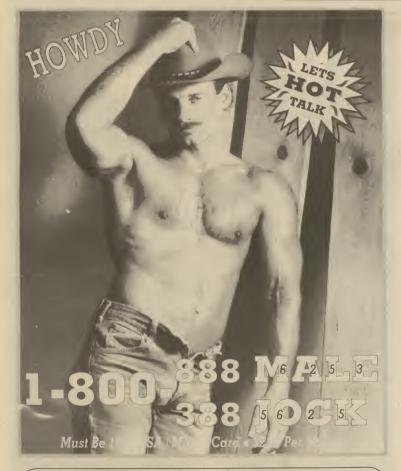
League Standings

WCTP 4-1 Girlfriends 4-1 Fear This 4-2 Rebels 3-2 Sistahs 2-3 Avengers 1-4 Weekend Warriors 0-5



Hey, that's my shirt! Women's Sunday flag football action.

(Photo: Jane Philomen Cleland)



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Women martial artists train at the annual Pacific Association of Women in Martial Arts Retreat

Girls Just Wanna Punch, Kick and Flip

by Pipi Ray Diamond

Since the '70s, there has been a strong interest among lesbians in studying martial arts. Lesbian martial arts schools have started in cities schools have started in cities all over the world. What's the attraction? Do lesbians take martial arts classes so they won't be gay-bashed, or do lesbians take martial arts classes because they are women living in a society full of violence towards women? Bay Area Reporter's Pipi Rae Diamond wrote this report after research that carried her from the Bay Area to North of Lake Tahoe. of Lake Tahoe

Hundreds of women gathered in the massive forest clearing, many wearing cotton white and black uniforms, totaling, inlary wealing corton white and black uniforms,
cloth belts, and yin yang symbol patches. They moved, synchronizing with each other,
bending and twisting in
unimaginable ways. Women
lined up on blue mats, tumbled, and flipped one after the
other in sequence. In another
section, pairs lunged and
swung at each other with six
foot long wooden staffs. At
first glance you might guess
you'd wandered into another
time — was this a major pagan
holiday? There was no time
machine responsible — this
forest gathering was a summer
camp martial arts weekend for camp martial arts weekend for

For four days over the September Labor Day holiday, women from the west coast, Canada and from as far east as Illinois, came to Two Rivers Camp, located an hour north of Lake Tahoe, to train, hang out, and take classes from 15 female instructors, many nationally and internationally known martial artists.
"No matter how diverse our arts, how different and farflung our individual lives, we all live under the same sky, sharing a connection with na-ture and with each other," said the camp booklet, ex-plaining the retreat's theme of "Under One Sky."

Few Lavender Stars Here

Though there was no camp announcement or lavender star by teachers' names in the booklet, the 16th Annual West Coast Women's Training Weekend hosted by the Pacific Association of Women

Martial Artists (PAWMA), was full of lesbians. Unofficial estimates (made

by this reporter and friends)
placed the lesbian attendees at
75-80 percent.
Attendees came from very
differentbackgrounds—Some
from schools where they were not only one of the few les-bians, but one of the few women. Many others came from predominantly lesbian schools. It was an interesting reflection of the increasing martial arts opportunities for

Self Defense a High Priority

PAWMA organizers made PAWMA organizers made self-defense training a high priority, scheduling a symposium on the self-defense/martial arts relationship. Jujitsu and self-defense instructor Linda Ranson explained how one can teach the physical techniques, but women must have the self-confidence and feelings of self-worth to use feelings of self-worth to use those techniques if they are assaulted. Ranson felt that practicing a martial art can give students extra confidence, but a commitment to train takes time and money that many cannot afford; a six veek or four-hour self-de ense class is much more ac cessible than ongoing martial arts classes. Since one self-defense class may be all the training some women will obtain, a few speakers noted, it is essential that self-defense instructors be very skilled, and preferable that they are also experienced in the martial arts.

Other PAWMA special trainings during the weekend included self-defense classes, included self-defense classes, throughout a schedule of Tai Chi, Tae Kwon Do, Karate, Kung Fu, Aikido, Jujitsu, Capoeira (Afro-Brazilian), Hwa Rang Do (Korean), Poekoelan (Indonesian), and Wing Chun. Weapons training classes included the Wing Chun. Weapons ting classes included sword, spear, sai, bo (long staff), tambos (short sticks), and tonfa (adapted farmer's tool), as anti-knife attack train-ing. There was lots of gloved sparring.

Although many of the martial arts seem to have dance-like enchanting exercise sequences, they represent the underlying essence of fighting. The very deception of-fered by looking so graceful and smooth, can actually have a much different application: in Master Wen-Mei Yu's class, Yu demonstrated how Tai Chi, stereotypically thought of as a soft art used for quiet meditation, can be very effective in self-defense applica-

Teresa Galetti, Co-Chair for Martial Arts at Gay Games IV, ran the only ex-plicitly lesbian oriented work-

(Continued on page 53)

Looking for Martial Arts Action?

Homo-friendly **Martial Arts Classes**

by Pipi Ray Diamond

Here's a sampler and byno-means-exhaustive list of some gay-friendly martial arts schools and self-defense class-es in the Bay Area. PAWMA has a more complete list of schools in the North and

schools in the North and South Bay.

Reputable schools will let you watch a class for free before committing. Since many different styles are good for many different types of people, try a little window shopping before you invest.

Most schools prefer that you call first, before you drop in.

*Aikido Arts Center 670

•Aikido Arts Center, 670 South Van Ness, SF, 861-6044.

•Community United Against Violence (CUAV) 777-5500, call for their referral list

5500, call for their referral list of self-defense classes.

*Defending Ourselves Self-Defense School, Women's Building, 3543 18th St., SF, 976-8778. Instructors: Helen Grieco and Patrick Phair. Offers self-defense classes for

Mand to Hand Community Arts Center, 5680 San
Pablo Ave., Oakland, 510-428-0502. Instructor: Coleen Gragen. Kajukenbo Kung Fu, and self defense for women.
Moa Sen Dojo Located in the EveryWoman's Fitness

Center, 5800 Shellmound (Emerybay Public Market), Emeryville, 510-845-6190. In-structor: Terri Giamartino. Cuong Nhu Oriental Martial Arts; offers self-defense classes for women only; men only;

es for women only; men only; and mixed.

*Laurel Jujitsu, 3718 Mac Arthur Blvd., Oakland, 510-530-5043. Instructor: JoAnn Strang, Jujitsu classes offered; self-defense for women and girls; self-defense for gay men only; and lesbian-only classes

only; and lesbian-only classes offered also.

•Peaceful Dragon: School of Tai Chi Chuan, 510-644-2856, East Bay. Instructor: Wasentha Young.
•Ronin Dojo Karate School 731-7560, SF. Instruc-tor: Lloyda French. Classes

tor: Lloyda French. Classes are for women only.

San Francisco State University 338-2819. Instructor: Nina Jo Smith. Co-ed self-defense classes for students.

San Francisco Women's Judo Club, 821-0303, 1622 Castro St. Women only.

Street Patrol 415-753-5748, SF. Free self-defense workshops for victims of hate crimes.

erimes.

•Wing Tao Mobility Arts.
Center, 511 48th St., Oakland,
510-652-5280. Instructor:
Stacey Jolles. Kajukenbo
Kung Fu classes and self-defense for people with disabilities. ▼





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LEAVE AN OUT GOING MESSAGE IN YOUR BARTALK MAILBOX. YOUR POTENTIAL ADMIRERS WANT TO HEAR YOUR VOICE AND ARE MORE LIKELY TO LEAVE YOU A RESPONSI

Women seeking adventure

BQF voluptuous beauty, tattoos, pierced genitalia, seeking very hip, tattooed, pierced woman who is ready to have the sex trip of her dreams. Light SM, heavy bondage. Limits respected, but not appreciated. EXT 1349.

Female Slaves wanted!!! Be submissive and ready for the most fun and strange experience ever. Call! EXT 1351.

Slim, attractive Dyke seeks sex and more with same. I'm easygoing but very horny. Call me today. EXT 1394.

Leave a message on the Bartalk Bulletin Board....or get names and numbers of peoples just like yourself who are seeking friends, partners or just a good ole passionate evening....

Men seeking relationships

AM blow bud sought by inexperienced BiWM, 47. Teach me by example or learn to suck w/ me. EXT 1353.

Big man, 6'3', 285, GWM, 31, relationship oriented, likes movies, dinner. You: GLM/GAM. I am avr lkng. You do not need to be gorgeous, just have a good heart. EXT 1354.

East Bay professional GWM, 50, 5'8', 170 seeks younger Latino for poss LTR. Enjoy honesty outdoors, travel. N/S, N/D. EXT 1356.

Very attr GBM, 27, 120, hzl eyes, Bl hair, fit, fun, out going looking for WM or LM for friends or LTR. EXT 1357.

31yo Chicano, 5'11', 185, husky artist seeks prof financially secure man for hot, wild eroticism. EXT 1358.

BM, 42 top, HIVneg sks WM, 45-60 bttm for fun times and poss LTR. EXT 1359.

Alternative boyfriend, 18-23, smooth body wanted by 36to BiWM. Like industrial music, films. EXT 1360.

Hry, hndsm, Ital guitarist/mover. Mesomorphic, HIVneg, forthright, caring, real, 35, shvd head. You: Waspy, bl eyed,mono. Enjoy Advent, arts, Zorn-Begosian, Wotkin, Iceland? Blackberrys? No repubs. EXT 1361.

Outdoors! Asian Tropics; quiet fine dining; wld travel; computers! Any hint of a friendship, match? 39, successful, unassuming, shy. EXT 1362.

GBM, 40's, 5'11', 200, 9' cut seeks hot safe sex with versatile GWM/GLM 40- 45, good-looking, Lt. hairy a plus. EXT 1395.

All American male. 6'2', Brown hair, blue eyes, athletic, professional, HIVneg seeks other All American males. EXT 1396.

Handsome top Asian, 27yo w/ smooth toned body, hot ass looking for WM, 25-35, HIVneg, Handsome, physically fit, mature, friendship or relationship. Lets explore the wild side...EXT 1397.

GWM 38, 6'3', 180, br/gr, beard long hair, bottom seeks LTR with long hair, beard, hung, Irg biker type, smoker ok. EXT 1402.

Take my soft daddy dick. Suck me up there, take my loads and send me on my way. HIVneg. Poss LTR. EXT 1404.

Are you HIVpos and sick of Bay Area and a bottom who wants a well hung top? Drink and smoke ok. EXT 1405.

Relationship? Wanted: Beefy, musc, Latino. I am a GWM, 6'2', 185, bl/bl, attractive. 36, in shape, HIVneg, top/versatile. EXT 1406. GWM, HIVpos, Italian top, 5'10', 43, 155 seeks BI/BI, slender bottom, 30-40 for dating/LTR. Nonsmoker, no drugs. EXT 1447.

Very passionate and attractive Asian, 29, lean, muscular, sexy body seeks cute GWM/LM, 24-32, HIVneg, masculine and hot looking a plus. Don't wait. EXT 1448.

Two masc, dominant guys want a young third for fun and games. Possible perm relationship for boy. EXT 1363.

Mature WM seeks foreskin to service. U B W, LM, trim to thin. Tight or loose skin OK. My home. EXT 1364.

Slave wanted for a party. Your the decoration! The time of you're life! Call now! EXT1365.

BM 6'5', gdlkng, hung 9'plus needs masc, musc, hung, vers GLM for intense man to man sex. Local only. EXT 1366.

Hot Puertorican seeking WM bottoms between 20-35. Attractive, into Black males only. EXT 1367.

W butch guy, 39, 5'8', hry, husky loves sucking Bl or Lat guys off. Kick back and talk nasty while I eat. EXT 1368.

Workout partner wanted. Int. BB want motivated training partner. Days pref. Market St. Gym. EXT 1369.

GWM, 38, 5'11', 175, seeks hung tops who like to fuck. 8' or more only HIVpos only. EXT 1370.

BJ for students. Long and slow BJ for trim and hard boner guys, 18-25. Will not be disappointed! EXT 1371.

Horse hung? Pony throated hndsm devil wnts BI stallion. Ball draining BJ for the most heavily hung. HIVneg and extra big meat only. No gag guarantee. EXT 1372.

Fun, fit, fine GAM and GWM want to meet imaginative, masc and athletic GAM, 18-30, for safe fun and games. EXT 1373.

Feel my moustache in your crack while you slide down my tongue. Me: Hot WM, 36, Br/BI, 6', 160, looking for hot butts. EXT 1374.

GWM, 40's, Br hr/eyes, HIVneg. Winter is here. Looking for GW/LM to get together with, cuddle next to. I'm looking for someone open minded, honest, serious, poss LTR. EXT 1375.

GWM, Br hr, Bl eyes, 40's, 220. I am sensual, honest adv man who would like to meet a serious man who likes home life, good times together. Poss LTR. Let's talk to see what else we have in common. EXT 1376.

BM, 38, 6'1', 165, gdlkng, 9', vers, sks B/L/AM for fun and friendship. Masculine and vers as plus. EXT 1377.

WM, mid 40's looking for Black bottom who likes dildoes and/or FF. EXT 1378.

Big beer-bellied W dad, 45, 5'11', 240 with massive, fit, healthy body and always hard dick and big low nuts need BJ or to screw. EXT 1379.

BM, 35, 6'1', gdikng wants BM, 18-45. I can take 10' of manhood. No gag, I guarantee you'll be amazed. Deep throat. EXT 1385.

In shape WM, hung big wants well built WM to spread their big hairy bubble butt on his hungry tongue. EXT 1386.

Super hung or tight chaps or long hair or mohawk? Want a hot butt to use for a fuck object? Smooth, slim, long haired butt boy submits to one or more slender, safe, sex crazed studs. EXT 1387.

Unasumming, private, successful prof seeks friends. Interests include Asian affairs; world travel; fine dining; outdoors; computers. 39, fit! EXT 13.88

Hot tight ass needs plowing. You well hung 9'plus, attr serious. Me: hndsm, 31, 5'8', 150, drk hr, goatee, tight, smooth body and ass, 7' UC and vers. exclnt cocksucker! Very well hung and serious calls only. EXT 1389.

Goodlooking straight type. Not into gay life. 39, 6'1', 200 seeks similar masculine man. Must be beautiful inside. EXT 1390.

Suck, fuck, lick, eat and be merry. Love doing it and having it done. I'm very masculine, not inhibited. HIVneg and safe. Into wearing uniforms and leather. Looking for mature males with moustache's. EXT 1391.

Hot and horny all the time kind of guy seeks men into phone sex. EXT 1411.

Hi neighbor, GWM, husky, goodlooking 31, HIVneg seeks G/BiM, 30's, near Sunset for mutual massage, J/O, BJ. EXT 1412.

Chaser's dream: 400 plus, GWM, vers, HIVneg, 402. You: 18-?, wt prop to ht, hot for big tits, belly, thighs, buttl!! EXT 1413.

GWM, 29, handsome seeks young pliant boys, 21-25. Be cute and slin You love toys and have a malleable hole. EXT 1414.

BI top seeks femme males for safe fucking, servicing and dildoe play. Femme males only. EXT 1415.

BM, 6'5', big needs masc, hung Latino for hot man to man sex. Versatile. Let's fuck eachother hard and long. EXT 1416.

Horny BB wants expert overall oral serv by cl ct attr masc GWM with dp throat, hot tongue. Couples OK. EXT 1417.

Very handsome, masc WM bottom, 6', 170, hung big, grt body looking for tops 8.5 plus. Good to very muse for discrete. weekday meeting only. Your place. EXT 1418.

BarTalk personals

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.98 cents per minute. Must be 18+

Tall, mature GWM, 45, non-BB with stiff boner, smkr, lkng to adore submissive GWM, 25-33, Fr/p with social evenings. LTR. EXT 1407.

Attr, gym-toned GAM, 29, 5'9', 170 seeks man of color for friendship, fun, LTR. Must be in shape to stocky, 25-35, N/S, N/D, HIVneg. EXT 1408.

Blond seeks Blond!!! 37, HIVneg, 5'9', 140, smooth, musc body. Nice round bubble butt. Relationship oriented seeks same. EXT 1409.

Cute GAM looking for tall handsome male. Must be N/S, . Serious only please. EXT 1439.

Hndsm GWM, 35, 5'10', 165, musc and athletic seeks a non-smoking Asian not into bars. EXT 1440.

27yo Asian jock, gym toned and smooth tanned body wants to meet other jocks under 35yo. In shape/BB a plus, for workout, massage and more. EXT 1441.

Lingering kisses, prolonged nipple play, mutual oral delights, affection. Come play W/ intelligent, fun, caring Nordic Blond. 5°9; 158, 40°s, HIVpos, smoker. Rel poss. EXT 1442.

GWM, 33, BI/Gm, 5'6', 135, HIVneg, mostly bttm seeks guys 26-38 for dating, movies, dinners, sex. Prefer BI or Brn GWM, LTR poss. EXT 1443.

Tactile, attractive, 27, WM seeking M to age 45. Love massage, JO, oral play. Smart, in-shape. Please call. Will answer all replies. EXT 1444.

GWM., 28, 5'8', 170, hairy, stache, HIVneg, in shape, shy, sweet, seeks hunky BB, 25-45, any race for fridshp and poss ritinshp. EXT 1445.

GBM, HIVneg, seeks GWM, HIVneg for good times and lots of fun. Give me a call. The juice might work. Hope you are a professional. EXT 1446. GWM, 32, Blond, 5'9', 140, good shape, gdlkng. You be 25-33, GWM, like romantic eves with fire and wine. Me HIVpos, you the same. EXT 1449.

GWM top, 28yo, 5'10', gdlkg, masc, lean, stache, drk hrleyes, healthy seeks gdlk W btrm, 21-32, with round hungry muscle butt into getting plowed, filled and making love. Possible LTR. I'm in the South bay. EXT 1450.

GAM, 28, 5'5', 110 seeking GWM,

GAM, 28, 5'5', 110 seeking GWM, mature, in shape, intellectual. I'm living in South Bay, willing to relocate. Drop a line if you are interest. No older than 39. EXT 1451.

Oakland Bottom seeks LTR with hung masc top who likes fucking smaller guy. Me: 5'3', defined, hairy bod, great legs, nipples and ass. EXT 1452.

I'm lkng for a M w/ bright shiny smile, in It 20's or early 30's and an accomplished talent for gyng and rcvg head. Rel oriented. I'm 35, well hung, 6', 180, vry hry, BI/BI, educ, secure an happy, I'm a noticeable guy, I want to meet a M who is sim to me. EXT 1454.

Ardent Lover, Genuine yng man, new to area. Great looks, great heart, masculine well built, mustache, romantic, honest, spiritual Br/Br, 5'10', 165. In search of topman w/ facial hair, N/S, who is honest, romantic, gllkg, w/ great heart, knows the value of a good friendship and intense sex. EXT 1475.

Men seeking adventure

I'm 29, 5'10', 160, boyish looking. Looking for HIVneg dad with large balls full of cum and big fat knob that needs regular oral milking. EXT 1393.

BARTALK AD OF THE WEEK

Oral slave wanted for safe, clean play. Aggressive WM, 47, 5'8", 180, athletic, muscular, healthy HIVpos. You're younger smaller, athletic, healthy. EXT 1466.

GWM, attr, 40's, HIVneg gives good as-you-like-it-head to hot clean, smart verbal, dom men, 35-60. East Bay preferred. I seek regulars. All calls

BM, 6'5' needs yng Gay couple for intense 3 way sessions and partying. Be hung, masc, hrny, vers. I'm 9'plus, horny. EXT 1381.

GBM seeks dad type. GWM that's into sucking, good dick. Bi and married men a plus. EXT 1382.

It's hard to be humble when you're a wrestler. If you think you're tough enough to take me down a notch, let's hit the mat pal! EXT 1383.

Aggressive, dom WM, hung big, 5/11/ gym bod needs in shape WM, hairy bubble butt to eat and fuck. EXT 1384. WM, 40, handsome, fit, hung seeks Latino to suck cock. You: Handsome, hung, in shape. EXT 1420.

Expert cocksucker available for group entertainment. Use me. Use my hot mouth, deep throat, satisfaction guaranteed. EXT 1421.

You: Goodlooking, sexy seeking young looking 32yo, tall, dark, handsome, hung 8.5. Let's take care of each other now. EXT 1403.

Intense nipple play. Me: Attractive GAM, 25. You: Attractive, 20-30. Both Huge, sensitive nipples. EXT 1398.

Sonoma County hunk. Hot, fit, athletic dude likes to get sucked and suck. You Fit, hot, 25-35. EXT 1399.

er hung East Bay BIM needs similar n, age 50 plus for hot quickies, group outdoor man to man scenes. EXT

LEAVE AN OUT GOING MESSAGE IN YOUR BARTALK MAILBOX. YOUR POTENTIAL ADMIRERS WANT TO HEAR YOUR VOICE AND ARE MORE LIKELY TO LEAVE YOU A RESPONSE.

WM, 39, very muscular, attractive, 5'5', 145 seeks men in dark, thin over the calf socks, Weejuns, Topsiders, other footwear. EXT 1422.

Itin ex-football jock seeks expert oral service on a reg basis. Castro location All replies considered. EXT 1423.

Oakland obsession, jack off, dirty talk, phallic power. Drink, smoke, party my place, 10-11 pm dates. Buddy - buddy scene seeks mutual friend. EXT 1424.

Nudist likes to be naked with other men and jack off, talk dirty, no fuck/suck. Drink, party, my place, Oakland. 10-11pm. Object: Serious cock worship. EXT 1425.

WM looking for WM to drop his pants to let me service cut or uncut dick, days or nites, videos, in or out, own a great bottom, tight and hot. EXT 1426.

Devoted cocksucker. WM seeks big long dicks for regular service with WM. Str or Bi, in or out, am or pm, cut or uncut. Hot ass avail, tight and hot. EXT 1427.

Young, horny, ready to explode? Straight appearing male, mid-thirties likes to go down on hot masculine dudes. Let me fulfill your needs! EXT 1428.

Bashful cocksucker wants to service goodlooking men with large, cut, hard cocks. I am a GWM, attractive, 45yo, discreet and dedicated. EXT 1429.

Sword swallowing by hot oral bottom. Bi, married, size a plus. Drop your Calvins, watch hot tapes, my mouth, your big dick. North Bay, Sonoma. Can travel. EXT 1430.

Hot Italian cum freak and ass eater seeks heavy, multiloaded horny men for regular sessions. Call for description. Avail days and eves. EXT 1431.

For hot sessions! Wanted: GWM who wear Nike Air hightops and Reebok Pumps basket ball shoes for kinky playtine, J/O, suck sessions. Call now EXT 1432.

32, GAM, husky, 210 loves to give gur under 45 and who are 7' plus, free BJ. Have lips/car, will travel. SFO to San Jose. EXT 1433.

BGM, 30yo, 6', 245, bearded, hairy chested seeks other bearded, hairy men for sex, oral encounters. No drugs or heavy drinkers. EXT 1410.

BarTalk personal

Gdlkng GWM, 37, 5'10', 145, w/ shaved swimmers body, 8' cock and a hungry, tight ass seeking GWI/LM, 25-45 w/ sim builds who enjoy long sessions of suck, ass play, toys, ff, cock play, 3 ways.Let's party, EXT 1434.

Good athletic as my legs or tuff cocksucker wanted. EXT 1435.

Ardent Lover. Genuine yng man, new to area. Great looks, great heart, masculine well built, mustache, romantic, honest, spirtual Brigh, 510', 165. In search of topman w/ facial hair, N/S, who is honest, romantic, gillkg, w/ great heart, knows the value of a good friendship and intense sex. EXT 1475.

Tall GWM, 40's top shows small package but erect, a bigger stiff story. Lkng for a cock appreciation. EXT 1455.

GWM 40ish, HIVneg, needs 7'cock sucked, ass massage, lite spank and be fucked, slow, also likes to suck and be FF. EXT 1476.

Very goodlooking, fit, handsome face, 25yo, Latin looking for a gdlkng men who take the time to show me love. Big cocks a plus. Asses. EXT 1456.

Butt Buster: 37yo GWM, gym toned butt needs plowing by a qualified and liscenced butt buster. EXT 1457.

Long hair? Young 'n horny? Student? Cum and get awesome BJ and more from goodlooking rad dad, 49, 175, goatee. EXT 1459.

GM, 29 seeks totally submissive slave boy. You're 18-22, slender, 5'8' or under and long hair a plus. I'm firm bu gentle. Dominant and HIVneg. Do it. EXT 1460.

Very long and very thick, clean cut, handsome, 5'8', bl w/ seriously gym toned body looking for men 25-35, hung very big w/ beautiful bodies. EXT 1461.

Just an average guy. GWM, 6'4', 44, 220, HIVneg, Br/BI smoker. You: GWM. over 6', 38-48, HIVneg, a nice guy. EXT 1462.

Men any race, who also have a desire to touch and or wear lingerie, GWM, mid 40's, 5'11', loves sex. EXT 1463.

White master has trained FF black slave boy to lend out for raunchy, homemade, kinky videos? Call me. EXT 1464.

Financial Dist prof for mutual great kissed, nipple play, oral affection. GWM, 5'9', 158, Nordic, HIVpos, smoker,

40's, videos, sunny yard. EXT 1465

Leave a message on the Bartalk Bulletin Board....or get names and numbers of peoples just like yourself who are seeking friends, partners or just a good ole passionate evening..

Oral slave wanted for safe, clean play Aggressive WM, 47, 5'8', 150, athletic, muscular, healthy Hivpos. You're younger, smaller, athletic, healthy. EXT 1466.

Attractive, GBM, 40's, Hivneg seek GWM, 50-65, daddy type w/ a big thick dick, 7-9.5' who enjoy love made to his dick for hours. EXT 1467.

Are you ready for some delightful 'nuits Pariseinnes?'. My heart will chain up yours, my hairy body will show you the yours, my hairy body will show rest! You: 40-50. EXT 1468.

Your hungry ass needs some special attention. Me: GWM, 43, attractive, 6'5', 280. You: GWM, 18-35, attractive, slim, nice buns. EXT 1469.

Hot GWM, 31, 160, 5'9', very handsome, hard, defined, seeks big muscled man, age, looks not importan Just big muscles to aggressively fuck, me. EXT 1470.

Hot Latino pigboy bottom, 5'10', slim, 147, well hung/ 8.5, handsome as hell, beautiful inside and out, easy going, witty, fun, adventurous, very high labido, into fuck, suck, bondage, some spanking, gentle FFing. Seeking complete satisfaction from hot topmen Well hung a must. Hip and modern a plus. Couples/groups ok. Call. Serious only. EXT 1479.

Experience needed by very handspme pigboy bottom. Need training in FF, bondage, and other kinky play. EXT 1480.

Have you checked your messages today!?! Do it today! It's free!

Transgender

BiWM worships MTF, TS cock. Love kinky fantasies, body worship, erotic play, being submissive, trim healthy. EXT 1219.

Hot, Tight and creamy white , Black cock needed to fill older TV pussy with honey. Do it often and I'm yours. EXT 1241.

Couples

Bi Latin Male seeks other Bi men with female partner for sexual exploration. I am a very handsome, postmodern/ alternative hipster type sexy male, 30, healthy, 5'10',148, w/ great ass, cock, mouth, slim swimmers build. You should be in good shape, into being orally serviced. EXT 1478.

Middle East man, 35yo, gr eyes, nice body, hairy is looking for horny couple, both top to fuck me. EXT 1350.

Published author. Unique, nice BiDWM ready to settle down with BiF interested in your history and psychology. EXT 1352.

Country Bear, 40's, city guy, 50's seek kinky trois. Must love giving and getting pleasure. EXT 1437.

Do something nice for you

Place a free Bartalk personal ad ... you 'll have a reason to smile, too...



BarTalk Personals... a great way to meet. Place your Free BarTalk Ad today!

BarTalk

New ads will be published in the following Thursday's issue and will run for three weeks. You will be notified by mail with information and details on how to leave a message in your mailbox and how to retrieve messages left for you.

SELECT A CATEGORY:

- **WOMEN SEEKING RELATIONSHIP**
- MEN SEEKING RELATIONSHIP
- BISEXUAL

COUPLES

WOMEN SEEKING ADVENTURE **MEN SEEKING ADVENTURE**

TRANSGENDER

NAME ADDRESS

STATE ___ ZIP CODE CITY

DAY PHONE **EVENING PHONE**

WRITE YOUR AD IN THE BOXES BELOW

MAIL TO: BAY AREA REPORTER. 395 9TH STREET. SAN FRANCISCO. CA. 94103

Gothic M-F TS seeks hot, hung punk guys, 18-30 for hanging out and? Must be masculine and self-sufficient. EXT 1242.

WM, 40's, attractive, 5'10', 150, 8' seeks slender TS to explore erotic pleasures. EXT 1474.

Hot new transgender needs Black hot top, Latino also. EXT 1473.

Bisexual

Bttm seeks BiWM, hung, cut or uncut. I service before, lots, videos, retired and ready nite/day. Juice, eat. EXT 1326.

BiLM, tall, handsome seeks Lesbian, BiFemales to strap it on for hot, safe sex. Lite D/S a plus. EXT 1347.

Muff diver exclusively oral sks BiF any age, race. Enjoy multi-orgasms, no recips, WM, fit, 57, 6', beard. No STD, hot mouth goes down for hours. EXT 1348.

Mellow, long-haired cuddle buddies sought by mellow, long-haired Native American, 40, Neopagan who enjoys rock and roll, jazz, blues, movies, A's baseball, Sharks hockey and deep intimacy. Non-smoker. EXT 1436.

GBM seeks dad type. GWM that's into sucking, good dick. Bi and married men a plus. EXT 1382.

Salt and pepper male couple seeks top guy or couple for sex and friendship. We enjoy porn, poppers, dirty talk and fucking. You enjoy the same. EXT 1438.

We are a hot gay couple 24 and 30, Caucasian and Latino, healthy and fit, both 5'10' and hung well/wery well. We would like to meet other men in the San Francisco area. We are into: Fucking, Sucking, Assplay, Bondage, Light Spanking, FF and anything else that does not involve shit or extreme pain. Love to party. Drugs optional, no drunks. EXT 1458.

BARTALK **PERSONALS** AND BARTALK BULLETIN BOARD for Men and Women 1-900-844-2227.

.98 cents per minute. Must be 18.

FRIDAY 22

Afro Solo: Five Black Men
Solo performance artists in
works about AfricanAmerican life, including
Wayne Corbitt, Joseph
Spencer Briggs, Farah Dews,
Thomas R. Simpson &
Dangerous George Williams.
\$5-10. 8pm. Also Sat. New
Traditions Theatre Company,
3153 17th at Shotwell. 34693444.

Breast Song
Boob-arama, with Mary
Wings reading her short
story, Jessica Patton on the
world's hugest knockers,
Mabel Maney looking for
lumps, Kris Kovick's Golf
Balls in Tube Sox, Miss Betty
Pearl's bad poetry, and Becky
McDonald's film, One Single
Life. Wear a black brassiere
or bustier and get in free 2nite. \$5 otherwise. Also Sat.
8pm. Red Dora's Bearded
Lady, 485 14th St.

Caligula and Little Egypt Transcontinental historical comedy about Rome's psychotic emperor and the Nile's vainest queen. §7-10. 8pm. Thru Sun. Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa. 759-7453.

Delicate Pin Stripes A full-cast version of Mae Meidav's one-person perfor-mance piece. \$10. Thru 10/30. Laval's Subterranean Theatre (which is also a pizza joint, so don't be surprised if you call).1834 Euclid Ave., Berkeley. (510) 540-7743,

Dancing at Lughnasa
Drama about five sisters in
rural Ireland, seen through
the eyes of a young boy,
\$20-32. 8pm. Sun. at 2 &
7pm. Thru 10/22. Berkeley
Repertory Theatre, 2025
Addison at Shattuck Ave.,
Berkeley. (510) 845-4700.

Kiki and Herb — On Fire
Trashy, loungey fabulousness
with Justin Bond and Kenny
Mellman. \$7. 1pm. Fridays.
Eichelberger's, 2742 17th at
Florida. 863-4177.

Madame! Yes, without Waylon, but with Mark Peters. \$12-\$15. 8pm. Fri. & Sat. at 7:30 & 9:30pm. Sun. at 3pm. Thru 10/24. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-4914.

Merry-Go-Round
New play about a man who refuses to grow up and lives in a cartoon world. \$17(previews thru Sun. \$10). 7pm. Sun. at 3pm. Thru 11/27. Climate Theatre, 252 9th St. 626-9196.

Midsummer Night's Dream. Bill Shakespeare chestnut, with a cast of 35 directed by Ronnie Larsen. Also Fridays and Saturdays, thru 11/13. \$15. 8pm. First Congrega-tional Church, Post & Mason. 267-6165.

Orotsukidoji Legend of the Overfiend Extremely violent ''erotic grotesque' Japanese animated flick about a monstrous demon thing. Also Sat. \$6. Red Vic Movie House, 1727 Haight St. 668-3994.

The Private Files
of J. Edgar Hoover
1978 film about our least
favorite member of the gay
community, the blackmailing,
power-hungry, ugly mug
closet queen who ruled the
FBI, starring Broderick
Crawford. No, there are no
scenes featuring that red
dress. \$7. 9:15. Pacific Film
Archive, 2625 Durant,
Berkeley. (510) 642-1412.



Alive!
An evening to support women with cancer, featuring June Jordan, Axis Dance Troupe, Louise Renne, Melanie de More. MC Maria Cora. \$15-75 (proceeds benefit the women's Cancer Resource Center & Charlotte Maxwell Complementary Clinic), 7:30pm. Palace of Fine Arts. (510) 653-3379.

Fiesta on the Hill Bernal Hts. arts and food fest, with Tom Ammiano & Pat Wilder and her Rhythm & Blues Band. 11am-6pm. Free. Bernal Playground, Cortland & Moultrie. 206-2140.

Gay Comedy Night
Tom Ammiano, Danny
Williams, Scott Capurro.
\$10. 10pm. Josie's, 16th at
Market. 861-7933.

The Gondoliers
Lamplighters' production of
the zany Gilbert & Sullivan
operetta. \$22. 8pm. Sun. at
2pm. Thru 11/7. Presentation
Theatre, 2350 Turk at
Masonic. 752-7755.

Jungle Red
Ultra-camp musical version of the film *The Women* is back, with more songs and a new cast, including Miss X, Donna Sachet, Ann Drogynous & Mark Sargent. \$13-15. 8pm. Sun. at 4pm. Artfull Circle Theatre, 47 Waller. 626-KILL.



Chachas

"By the way, we got rats in the cellar.

cine Chao

For a Strength
experience that's lower
on the came factor but
gay nonetheless, check
out Festival Cine
Latino's Gay and Lesbian
Film and Video Festival, a
potpourri of homo visions
from Panamanian,
Brazilian and American
Latino filmmakers. Titles
and subjects span a wide
range of topics, including
a couple with HIV in Mas
Que Amor (right),
Harlequin Exterminator,
Both, Breaking Pan With
Sol, Skirt Full of
Butterflies, How Else Am
I Supposed To Know I'm
Alive?, The Fight (two
boxers end their match
with a delightful surprise)
and Memories of Tata.
October 22 (8pm, with
catered reception at
6:30) & 23 (1 & 7pm).
\$5-12. Mission Cultural
Center, 2868 Mission at
25th. 553-8135.

Cine

Comic Suzanne
Westenhoefer grew up in
Lancaster, Pennsylvania.
"Gay bars, yeah we had
them...they were run by the
Amish." The gorgeous blond
lesbian comic who wowed
the Comedy Central show
and continues to affront
straight audiences
nationwide as our
ambassador of hip queer wit
invades Josie's for the first
time. Catch a laugh attack
from her stand-up act,
"Nothing in My Closet But
My Clothes." \$10-12.
October 27-30 at 8pm, with
a late 10pm show also on
Friday. Josie's, 16th at
Market. 861-7933.

Droll

Dame

Dying for a dose of high film can in the worst way? See Whatever Happened to Baby Jane? Robert Aldrich directed this oddball classic that starred the tridivas of the film world in a grand guignol drama, the highest echelon of sisterly abuse. For a rip-roaring quote-fest of queer camp, there is no parallel. See Joan and Bette at their best, \$\frac{8}{8} \text{Bpm. October 28-31.} Also midnight on Saturday, all Hallow's Eve. Yes, you can art in drag. The Victoria Theatre, 2961 16th \$\frac{8}{8} \text{63-7576.}

Conjuring: Orotsukidoji (above, FRI.) Mistablu (THU.)

Faggot With a Gun Mark Davis takes on the fundies as he goes undercover. \$10-12. 8pm. Thru 10/24. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

Independence
A prodigal daughter's return
to her lowa home sparks
controversy in this drama by
Lee Blessing. \$10. 8:30pm.
Sun. at 2pm. Thru 10/24.
Theatre Rhinoceros Studio,
2926 16th St. 861-5079.

I Was a Teenage Frankenstein Opening night of a wild week long festival of schlocky horror and exploitation flicks. Bucket of Blood, Rock All Night. Riot on Sunset Strip, more, more, more! Call for schedule. \$6. The Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St at Valencia. 863-1087.

Judith Fein
The author reads from her
book Exploding the Myth of
Self-Defense: A Survival
Guide for Every Woman.
7:30pm. Old Wives' Tales,
1009 Valencia. 821-4676.

numoeros lonesco's classic tale of a world where everyone becomes a beast. \$10-12. 8pm. Thru 10/31. Open Egg Theatre, 450 Geary St. 673-1172.

Scott Capurro & Marilyn Pittman Gay & lesbian stand-up shtick. \$10. 10pm. Josie's, 16th at Market. 861-7933.

Beyond Therapy Christopher Durang's wacky, off-kilter comedy about bisexuals, shrinks and neurotics. \$20. 8pm. Hotel York's Plush Room, 940 Sutter St. 885-2800.

Why We Have a Body Comedy about gender roles, a dyke detective and a woman who thinks she's Joan of Arc when she's not robbing 7-Eleven stores. \$12-21. 8:30pm, Sun. 2pm & 7:30pm, Re-extended thru Oct. Magic's Southside Theatre, Fort Mason Center, Bldg. D. 441-8822.

Men-Women We Have Known Will Roscoe, author of The Zuni Man-Woman, and Winfield Coleman host a slide show and discussion of Native American berdache, or third gender, traditions. 7pm. New College of California, 777 Valencia. 621-4716.

Night of the Black Mask III Costume and black mask contest. beer/soda bust, raffle and more. \$5. 9pm-midnight. Kimo's, 1351 Polk St. 255-4663.

Queer in Your Ear
Are long-term lesbian
relationships just another
fairy tale? Hear opinions and
interviews. 12:30pm. KPFA
Radio 94.1 FM.

San Francisco International Accordion Festival Those Darn Accordions, The Gospel Accordion to Women and many others perform in a two-day fest of that funny, much-maligned keyboard instrument. 11:30am-5pm Also Sun. Anchorage Shopping Center, Fisherman's Wharf. 775-6000.

Jason Gaillard's paintings at John Pence Gallery (WED.)

BAY AREA REPORTER OCTOBER 21, 1993

film camp
WhatJane?
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on Vallow's Can arrive Victoria 16th St.

SUNDAY 24

The Life and Times of Allen Ginsberg
Documentary about the gueer poet of our times, including interviews with Timothy Leary, Ke Kessey, William Burroughs, Abbie Hoffman and others. \$5.50.
Also Mon. Red Vic Movie House, 1727 Haight St. 668-3994.

Second Annual Alternative Ball
Come as your favorite fairy
tale to a Halloween costume
party sponsored by Contra
Costa Now & the Pacific
Center. Dancing, DJ, food.
\$10-15. 7:30-midnight.
Twelve-Twenty Bar, 1220
Pine St, Walnut Creek. (510)
934-4154.

St. Paulus Fundraiser
Annual picnic with hot dogs,
hamburgers & beverages
provided. Salads and
desserts accepted. Contributions go to Friendship
Banquet, a meal program for
PWHIV. 11am-2pm. 950
Gough St. 673-8088.

William Bryan
Pianist solo concert of works
based on Walt Whitman's
poems from Leaves of Grass.
4pm. Swedenborgian
Church, 2107 Lyon St. at
Washington. (707) 4332048.

MONDAY 25

Ace Lundon Author of The Closets Are Open, the Dining Room's Full reads. 7:30pm. A Different Light,489 Castro. 431-0891.

Amy Tan
Way popular Joy Luck Club
author reads and speaks
about her work. Proceeds
benefit Sojourn, an ecumenical ministry for SF Gen.
Hospital patients. \$20. 8pm.
Fort Mason Conference
Center, Bldg. A. 575-2975.

Gay Comedy Open Mike MC Suzy Berger. Aspiring comics can call to sign up by 7pm. \$5. 8pm. Josie's, 16th & Market. 861-7933.

Homecoming Staged reading of Philip Horvitz's homo homage to coincest, violence and musical theatre. \$8. Proceeds benefit Kiki. 8pm. Also Tues. Kiki 483 14th. 863-KIKI.

TUESDAY 26

Burroughs, the Movie Funny, offbeat documentary about the granddaddy of punk, actor, former junkie, nasty old queer and author of *Naked Lunch, The Wild Boys*, and other literary oddities. \$5.50. Red Vic Movie House, 1727 Haight St. 668-3994.

Normal Love
Jack Smith's 1963
unfinished, all-color, wouldbe follow-up to Flaming
Creatures. Creatures in drag
and monster costumes
cavort, copulate and primp.
7:30pm, \$7. Pacific Film
Archive, UC Berkeley, 2625
Durant Ave., Berkeley. (510)
642-1124.

Punch Me in the Stomach Deb Filler's moving and hilarious tale of a Holocaust survivor, his daughter and their family, \$8.8:30pm. The Marsh, 1062 Valencia near 22nd. 641-0235.



WEDNESDAY 27

Edward Weston 35 rare photos spanning the career of the great artist. Thru 11/13. Fraenkel Gallery, 49 Geary. 981-2661.

The Family Seen Imagery of the family in contemporary society, imagined and re-imagined. \$4-6. Thru 11/20. SF Camerawork, 70 12th St. 621-1001.

Imogen Cunningham Paris in the Sixties 30 rarely seen photographs. Thru 11/10. Alliance Francaise Gallerie, 1345 Bush St. 775-7755.

Jack Killed Jill
Live music for Faster
Pussycat's Day of the Dead
party. Come as yer favorite
corpse. 10pm-ish. \$4.
Paula's Clubhouse, 3160
16th St. 561-9771.

Jason Gaillard Compelling oil paintings. 6-8pm. Thru 11/27. John Pence Gallery, 750 Post St. 441-1138.

Lesbian & Gay Open Reading Bring heart-broken poetry, scathing essays and revealing short fiction. 7:30pm. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St. 282-9246.

Naranjo-Morse Solo exhibition of clay sculpture by modern Pueblo artist. Thru 10/30. American Indian Contemporary Arts, 685 Market, Suite 250. 495-7600.

Martin Wong
An exhibition by the New
York painter and San
Francisco expatriate. TuesSat. 10am-5pm; Thurs. until
8. Until 11/13. San Francisco
Art Institute's Walter McBean
Gallery, 800 Chestnut St.
771-7072.

Pageant Hilarious musical drag parody of a beauty contest. 8:30pm. Fri. & Sat. at 7 & 10pm. Sun. at 3 & 8pm. Thru 10/31. Post Street Palace Theatre, 450 Post St. 989-SHOW.

Ring, Ring Goes the Bell A visual collaboration/in-stallation of film, found objects, and construction by Julio Morales & Domingo Nuno. 6-8pm. Thurs.-Sat., thru 10/30. The Luggage Store, 1007 Market. 255-5971.

Taking the Street
Exhibit of street and queer
photos by our own Jane
Philomen Cleland. Thru
10/31. Josie's, 16th at
Market. 861-7933.



Coming Home Hospice Bingo \$12 buy-in. Gay and fun gambling. Go for it. 7pm. 100 Diamond St. 552-7454.

Construction Stories
New Yorker Marty Pottenger's solo stories about her twenty years as a dyke in the carpentry biz. An engaging and virtuoso storyteller. \$10. 8pm. Thru 10/30. Life on the Water's New Studio, 3435 Army St. at Valencia, Suite 222. 824-9394.

The Halloween Performance Theatre/performance and social therapy show presented by the West Coast Center for Social Therapy. Free. 7pm, MCC, 150 Eureka. 267-0518.

Mistablu
Casanova meets Madonna in this odd play of obsession and the quest for eternal life. Performed with a live score by bassist Shingi Eshima. \$12.15. 8:30pm. Thru 11/21. Studio 2505, 2505 Mariposa at Hamp-shire. 905-4605.

Jeffrey
Hit Off-Broadway gay
comedy,
Family
Values) Rudnick,
about a ger-waiter who
gives up sex, only to meet
the bartender man of his
dreams, who's HIV-positive.
\$15 previews thru 11/1.\$2230 thereafter. Theatre on the
Square, 450 Post St., floor
2M. 433-6461.

Pygmalion George Bernard Shaw's witty play that inspired My Fair Lady, \$14-38. 8pm. Wed. & Sat. at 2pm, Sun. at 3pm. Thru 11/21. American Conservatory Theatre, Mason at Geary, 749-2ACT.

THURSDAY 28

The Fatherless Sky
Play with - music that
concerns one man's odyssey
from streetwise city kid to
the 'smartest Jew in the
world,' with time off to be a
C&W singer. \$12-30.
8:30pm, Sundays at 7:30.
Thru 11/7. The Magic
Theatre, Building D, Fort
Mason Center. 399-1809.

Celebrity Pool Toss
Benefit for the Tenderloin
After-School Program, in
which the highest auction
bidder gets to toss susan
Leal, Willie Brown, Terence
Hallinan and (get this!) Dick
Hongisto! \$25. 5:30pm.
Phoenix Hotel, 601 Eddy St.
at Larkin. 921-8147.

Hot Turkey Sandwich with real mashed potatoes & country gravy, cranberry sauce 5.50 Chicken Stroganoff with marsala

Monday-Friday Lunch Specials

wine & mushrooms, over fettucini5.95 Oven-Roasted Pork Quesadilla

with ginger-plum sauce3.95 Fried Calamari with red

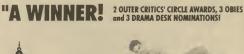
Patio Cafe
531 Castro Street, between 18th/19th
Reservations for 6 or more 621-4640

ERADE S Q

COSTUME PRIZES, DOOR PRIZES, ENTERTAINMENT, CASINO, DANCING OCTOBER 29 RED LION HOTEL, SAN JOSE 8:00 ms - 2:00 am ADVANCE: \$25; \$45 (couple) DOOR: \$30; \$50 (couple)

Win a trip for two to Palm Springs!

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"Steve goes after Jeffrey like Cary Grant pursuing Irene Dunne in a '40s SCREWBALL COMEDY." - Jack Kroll, Newsweek

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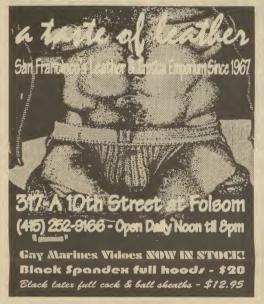
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STORMYLEATHER Quality leather, latex, and PVC for women, men & San Francisco's premier fetish boutique 1158 Howard St (bet. 7th & 8th) (415) 626-1672 M-Th 12-6, Fri-Sat 12-7, Sun 2-6





BAY AREA REPORTER

OCTOBER 21, 1993

AREA REPORTER

Mr. Marcus

Dyke Daddy, Mommy Chosen

o Leroux, a leather biker woman with over 10 years involvement in leather lifestyles, was chosen Dyke Daddy III last Friday night, Oct. 15, on the SF-Eagle patio. A large crowd was on hand to see the two contestants compete for the dyke daddy title, and three others, who competed for the new dyke mommy title. Emcees Rainbeau and Irwin Kane are getting better and better on the mikes, ad libbing and injecting throughout the evening their unique brands of humor. There was only a few minutes delay only a few minutes delay from the announced starting time and it ended exactly at 2300.

Jo Leroux is a member of the Women's Motorcycle Contingent, and formerly, Ms. Vancouver Leather (1988-89 and 1990-91). She has been a familiar face in both the men's and women's communities. Undoubtedly, her enormous energy and enthusiasm will help her in the difficult job of raising vital funds for women's health service providers.

Sash Sisters

The newest addition to the Sash Rash roster is the Dyke Mommy title. It would take more space than I have here to explain this concept, but leather people understand it and can explain it thoroughly if you must know At any and can explain it thoroughly if you must know. At any rate, three women competed for this title and all were obliged to perform fantasies which were innovative and clever as well as humorous. Some of them had as many as eight people involved. Southbay leather woman, Tina Carroll of Milpitas took this title.

Two of the judges were chosen by lottery ticket: Mr. Watering Hole Richard Faust, and a very enthusiastic woman. The other selected judges were Ms. SF Leather Queen Cougar, the first ever Sacramento Dyke Daddy Shannon Morgan, and Leather Daddy Philip Turner. Their questions were tough but fair, and the contestants gave intelligent the contestants gave intelligent

With entertainment by Donna Shrout (singing "live") and Company, and Skeeter Donna Shrout (singing "live") and Company, and Skeeter Wildman's "last walk" /speech with a surprise visit by "Cher" (via Piggy), the winners were announced to much whooping and hollering. The other contestants were Pam Myer, Taj Waggaman and Mean Mommie Debra Miller. Fun night. Lots of exciting leather women and men on hand. Thanks, Skeeter! And another feather in Jamie Santos' hat!

On Thursday, Oct. 28, San Francisco will add another landmark institution to its al-(Continued on next page)



Jo Leroux, a 10-year leather activist was chosen Dyke Daddy III last Friday, Oct. 15 at the SF-Eagle. She's an active mem-ber of the S.F. Women's Motorcycle Contingent.



The 4-story building at 7th & Folsom is the new home of Mister S Leather Company and Fetters, USA, opening to the public without fanfare on Thursday, Oct. 28.

Mr. Marcus



The pride of Milpitas, CA., Tina Carroll, was chosen the first Dyke Mommy of San Francisco, adding yet another title to the Sash Rash list. She's also a member of S.L.U.G.(Photo: Mr. Marcus)





Perry Gatewood, 30, is the 1993-94 Mr. Oklahoma State Leather, chosen last weekend in Oklahoma City. He'll represent his state at the 16th Intl. Mr. Leather Contest in May 1994.

ready impressive list when the doors swing open to the public at 310 — 7th St (at Fol-som) to the new 16,000 sq. ft, 4-floor leather and latex prod-ucts emporium, Mister S.

With owner Richard Hunter's ambitious plans, the drive and dedication of manager and CEO Joseph Bean, and the extensive experience of leather designer Skeeter Wildman, it's a team that can wildman, it's a team that can only be headed for success. This is surely the biggest leather-lover's shopping paradise in the entire state of California, and quite possibly, the world!

Boasting a two-volume cat-alogue with scads of esoteric alogue with scads of esoteric toys, bondage equipment and leather gear, the new Mister S, with almost 15 years of quality leather, can expect a rosy future. It provides gear and service available nowhere else. You'll have to see it to believe it: a main floor showroom, a second floor of offices and vital departments, a third floor leather workroom and and vital departments, a third floor leather workroom and the fourth floor, which has been designed for photo shoots, video production and other endeavors. Be the first in your circle to visit the new Mister S store. You will be so glad you were there for the opening!

The Folsom St. Fair and Dore Alley Fair video that everyone's raving about is now available by mail order for \$35 (which includes tax, postage and handling) by writing to Adworx, 25-B Alvarado St., San Francisco 94110. A percentage of all sales will go to selected charities. And be advised that this is not a SMMILE-connected item.

And while on the subject of SMMILE, they presented (Continued on next page)



Dyke Daddy II Skeeter Wildman realized her fantasy on her last night in office with a special appearance of ''Cher'' (aka Piggy) eating out of a dog dish. (Photo: Mr. Marcus)

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Simple Message:

We are still located at 1779 Folsom Street at the corner of 14th and ready to serve your needs for leather, latex, SM toys, and bondage gear.

Secondary Message: We are moving, before the end of October, to 310 Seventh Street near the corner of Folsom Street. Our phone number will not change (415) 863-7764

> **Store Hours: Monday thru Saturday** IIAM to 7 PM Sunday, Noon to 6 PM

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5-247-2000

Just Dick, Desire and 100 Naked Men in a Room Hotline: 979-0537

See the Thing Itself!

B. A. R. news you can use!

LIVE ONE ON ONE PHONE SEX THE BIG BOYS HANG OUT HERE! CREDIT NO CREDIT CARD REQUIRED \$2 - \$3.99 Min









BAY AREA REPORTER OCTOBER 21, 1993 PAGE 52

Mr. Marcus

\$42,000 in proceeds from both street fairs last Tuesday to the beneficiaries and if you want Folsom St. Fair "Decade" hats, pins, t-shirts or posters you can order them by calling (415) 648-FAIR. If you must see before you buy, they are on display at *Bear* Magazine offices, 9th & Har-

Applications for the Mr. Safe Sex contest, which takes place at the Eagle on Saturday, Nov. 13, are now available by calling Josh Botfield at 476-9932 (days), or 861-4360 (evenings). Let's have a good turnout for this year's contest!

Lenny Broberg red-eyed it over the weekend to the Mr. Oklahoma Leather Contest where another hot looking 30-year-old leather man, Perry Gatewood, took the title and will represent that state at IML next year. He's an articulate spokesman for OKC's

Simply Equal AIDS agency, and weighs in at 160 lbs,

which is distributed quite nicely on his 5 ft. 10-inch frame.

Lenny Reports that the host hotel, Havana Inn, makes that infamous spa in Los An-geles look like Romper Room. What with 3 bars in the complex and people sashaying on the balconies with room doors wide open, it's unbelievable that it all took place in Oklahoma City. But all Lenny got this time was an Oklahomo t-shirt. That's right, Oklahomo!

Affairs to Remember

Friday, Oct. 22: The first-ever Clippers party in San Francisco for people into haircuts, body shaving, and other hirsute activity tonight;

naircuts, body shaving, and other hirsute activity tonight; doors open at 2200, and it's BYOB and a \$5 donation. You must RSVP to "Dean" at (415) 864-0564. Don't RSVP if you are not sure of attending — space is limited.

Danny Williams celebrates his (??) birthday with an "Evening of Fantasy, Flesh, and Flash" and hordes of entertainers at the SF-Eagle. This \$6 beer/soda bust benefits the AIDS Emergency Fund. Art Tomaszewski and Kelly Burlingham will emcee. Saturday, Oct. 23: Leather Daddy Philip Turner and Mr. Watering Hole Richard Faust host a Great Buns Calendar signing

beer/soda bust (\$6) at the Watering Hole tonight from 2000-2300, benefiting the AIDS Emergency Fund. Be

AIDS Emergency Fund. Be there!

The guys of TRUST host a social gathering on the Eagle patio from 2000-2300 tonight. Check it out. Inquire about membership.

Sunday, Oct. 24: That fun-loving Cal Eagles MC hosts the beer/soda bust at the Eagle from 1500-1800 today, with an "Oktoberfest" party for \$8 featuring the biggest, fattest sausages they can find. Always a fun group to socialize with. What? No beef stroganoff this year??

Wednesday, Oct. 27: Golden Shower Buddies party at 933 Harrison tonight. Doors open from 2000-2200 only. Dress code enforced,

and it benefits the AIDS Emergency Fund. Call (415) 512-7477 for info.

Thursday, Oct. 28: Hot Ash monthly party at the Lone Star Saloon tonight. You know the rules. Bring your own stogies or buy them

your own stogets of there.
Sluts for Sensation host their second leather dyke SM party at Club Eros tonight. Doors open only from 2000-2200. \$15. Dress mean and play safe!

2200. \$15. Dress mean and play safe!
Friday, Oct. 29: Annual
Leather & Feathers costume competition at the Eagle tonight, with \$100 cash prize for Most Humorous, Best Group, and Best in Theme costume. Remember, costumes must be of leather and feathers. Beginning at 2000 hours.

Sweet Lips

Halloween Plans

you're in the market for a gown, wig, or skimpy stuff for Halloween, go to the Billy-club at 1081 Pine Street near The Gate Bar and Restaurant. You'll find a fabulous selection there or Fills De Her tion there, or Billy De Herrera — of Pageant fame — will help you create your own en-

Talk about creativity; you Talk about creativity; you don't want to miss the special Open Show by Miss Gay Runners-Up, Lana Cardesga and Jim Mitchell, at the allnew Kimo's Penthouse on Friday, Oct. 22, at 10 p.m.

And while you're in the neighborhood, head over to

neighborhood, head over to the Polk Rendezvous, which features the handsome and "talented" James on the plank, Mondays through Thursdays from 3 till 8 pm. If you ask him nicely, he will gladly stir your drink for you.

Have you noticed how much weight Larry of The Cinch Saloon has lost? He is a mere shadow of his former self — and no he is not ill, he's merely happy to have reclaimed that boyish, high school figure.

reclaimed that boyish, high school figure.
Linda, of the Phone Booth on Van Ness, has the talented Jim Gomes on the plank Saturdays through Wednesdays from 6 p.m. till 2 a.m. He says Linda is just great to work for and that they have a scally figure ground of regulars.

really fun crowd of regulars. The Giraffe Video Lounge The Giraffe Video Lounge and Annex will celebrate David Webb's 40th birthday (he still looks good) on Monday, Nov. 1, with a buffet by Dennis Tyler at 4 p.m. His actual birthday is on Halloween.... So many happy returns of the day, David.

Join David Kapp and J.D.



The ever-lovin' Sweet Lips (left) and Linda Miller at her 50th birthday party at the Cinch.

at Kimo's 49ers games with a \$10 beer bust, which includes hot dogs, popcorn, peanuts, special raffle drawings, and schnapps with every 49ers touchdown — lots of fun!

By the way, Mark Campanella is now the gay community relations person with the Budweiser Beer Companion.

munity relations person with
the Budweiser Beer Company. He will be happy to help
all bars in any promotion
they might want.
Also, on the birthday list
this week, hoist a brew to two
great guys on Saturday the
23rd: Jay Ethyl Noonan and,
of course, our own "J.D."
Lupann's on 18th Street on
Mondays serves a fabulous
Country Night BBQ dinner.
It's a two-for-one deal, so you
won't want to miss them on

won't want to miss them on

Lots of parties are in the works for that hallowed night, including one at Mar-lena's, with Empress Jackie doing a tailgate party on Sun Oct. 31, from 1 p.m. on.

A \$49 prize is being offered for the best-dressed 49ers fan. There will be lots of out-oftown guests, too, so don't

The Gate Bar and Restaurant will host a three-day Hal-loween Party that is sure to loween Party that is sure to be a hit. Drop by and enjoy a great dinner before you go trick or treating.

Lily's will host a Halloween show with costume prizes at midnight.

Halloween weekend at Kimo's is sure to be a blast with "KerSMACKidda," a live comedy review that starts.

with "KerSMACKidda," a live comedy review that starts at 9 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Stick it out to 12:01 a.m. Halloween morning and you'll get to see the Rocky Horror Picture Show on the big screen TV. You supply the costume, we'll supply the props, prizes, and surprises. Happy Halloween, everybody.

Oh, I almost forgot, glad to see you're on the road to recovery, Empress Flame, after your back operation.

Sports Guide

Football

Football
Women's Flag Football: Interested women should stop by Golden Gate Park's Polo Fields on Sundays, or call Maureen (415) 479-1131.
San Francisco Trojans Football. Two games every Saturday, 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., at Silver Terrace near Silver and Bayshore, SF. All skill levels welcome. Call Gary at 344-8873.

Soccer
San Francisco Spikes
Men's Soccer. Practice Tuesdays, 5:30-8 p.m., at Beach
Chalet in Golden Gate Park.
Call Carlo Togni at 821-4248.
Women's Soccer. Call
Golden Gate Women's Soccer
League Chair Jan Mullen at
753-0946.

Volleyball
Volleyball practice every
Sunday, 8 p.m., at Eureka
Valley, 100 Collingwood. Call
Tony Travers at 255-1332.
Club Volleyball practice
for "B" league players and up
every Saturday except first
Saturday of each month, 9:3011:30 a.m., at Eureka Valley,
100 Collingwood. Team and
individual advanced players
practice Mondays, 7:05 p.m.,
at Glen Park Gymnasium.
Call Mike Bulawit at 731-2056.
Gay Volleyball. Every
Sunday, 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
at 18th St. & DeHaro. Everyone welcome. Jay: 864-0257.

one welcome. Jay: 864-0257

Racquet and Paddle Sports
Gay & Lesbian Tennis
Federation — Abi 333-9618, or
Carlos 626-7519.
Table Tennis Anyone?
Practice Tuesdays, 7:00-9:30
p.m., at Milberry Union,
UCSF, 500 Parnassus, SF.
Call Allen Balderson, 626-

1787, or Lucie, 387-4476.

Team San Francisco
Gay Games bound Team
San Francisco hopes to take
at least 1,000 athletes from
the Bay Area to Gay Games
IV in New York, June 18-25,
1994. A deposit of \$100 (refundable through December)
is needed now to secure housing in New York. Registration for all sports in GGIV begins in October. Through a
quarterly newsletter and
monthly calendars, TSF will
supply you with the latest information coming out of New
York, travel & housing, registration packets for all sports,
your uniform for Opening &
Closing Ceremonies, and
funds to help you get there.
To join TSF, call (415)-8248118.

Swimming
Tsunami Masters Swim
Club — call Suzanne at 4311933.

Scuba Diving
Northern California Rainbow Divers: Lesbian and Gay Scuba Club for the active diver in Northern California. Meets second Tuesday of every month, 7:30 pm. at the Sierra Club, 730 Polk Street, San Francisco. Call Greg Abrams for more info, (415) 821-2877.

Boxing
Bay Area Boxing Club, a
fully sanctioned USABF
(United States Amateur Boxing Federation) meets Thursdays at 8 p.m. Open to all interested gay men and les-

bians; all skill levels are welcome. Call Greg at 337-6245.

Hiking San Francisco Hiking Club

San Francisco Hiking Club

— Call Clyde at 285-1260.
Gay and Lesbian Sierrans, official activity section of the Sierra Club. Call the hotline:

Running
San Francisco FrontRunners. Fun runs at Stow Lake
Boat House in Golden Gate
Park, every Saturday, 9 a.m.
No-host brunch follows. Call

No-host brunch follows. Call John at 863-0954.

San Francisco Track & Field, practice every Tues. and Thurs., 6 p.m., and Sun., 10:00 a.m., at Kezar Stadium on Waller & Stanyan streets, SF. Call Rick 550-7966.

Bay Area Distance Runners. Call Dave Studach at 626-1380 or Lois Allen at 586-6013.

Wrestling

San Francisco Wrestling Club practices Sundays, 3-5 p.m. Call Jim Frazier (510) 538-8490.

538-8490.
Golden Gate Wrestling
Club. Practice Thursdays and
Fridays, 7 p.m., at Eureka
Valley Rec Center, 100
Collingwood, All skill levels, men and women welcome. Call Gene at 821-2991.Bay Area Wrestling Newsline at

Bowling Women's Business Bowling League. Call Ann at 641-5795. Tavern Guild Bowling League. Call Mal Garcia at 752-2366.

Bodybuilding
B.I.C.E.P.S. Bodybuilders
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& Physiques. Open to men
and women. Call 267-1864 or
Nick at 431-5691.
Arcadia Bodybuilding Society — call 978-9495 or write
ABS, 1230 Market Street, SF,
CA 94114.

Bicycling
Different Spokes Bicycle
Club — Sundays: Decide-nRide. Open to all, 10 a.m.,
McLaren Lodge, Golden Gate
Park. Every Tuesday — strenuous training ride, McLaren
Lodge, 5:30 p.m. Call Derek
at (510) 339-2345.

Boating
Barbary Coast Boating
Club — gay boat owners and
enthusiasts meet the 3rd
Wednesday of every month, 7
p.m., Berkeley Yacht Club,
Berkeley Marina. West to the
end of University Ave., #1
Seawall Drive. (415) 905-6267.

San Francisco Slammers, women's basketball team. Call Susan at 648-4931. Men's Basketball — call Tony at 621-2710. ▼

Note: Your sports group can be listed here. Send Sports Guide the name of your group, a brief description, the date, times, and locations of your practices, and a contact person for the group. B.A.R.'s Sports Guide, 395 9th St. SF, CA 94103.

Martial

shop, a Tournament Judging Clinic to train those interested in becoming certified judges for the games. With so many lesbian teachers and students, I wondered why there weren't more specific lesbian events at the PAW-MA weekend, but many lesbian gratial artistic feel that bian martial artists feel that their martial arts needs are in line with a more essential need — a need for the physical empowerment of women.

Some Link Gay Identity with Gay Parade

PAWMA Student participant Rachael Masson de-scribed her issues as a lesbian martial artist as linked with her martial arts issues as a woman. Her indentity in training as a martial artist is based on her essentially female con-cerns. "The time I come together with my lesbian identity is when I march with my school in the Gay Day Parade," she explained.

Yet there is some other strong yet unexplained attrac-tion that martial arts training holds for lesbians: Why were such a high percentage of the attendees lesbian? Does mar-tial arts training embody more of a lesbian body more of a lesbian than a straight ideal? Or do lesbians worship strong female role models like martial arts teachmodels like martial arts teachers? The answers haven't materialized yet, although one thing is sure: lesbian culture has nurtured and sustained many martial arts schools. According to PAWMA weekend student Jen Resnick, the core root of the lesbian/martial arts connection is grounded in the women's movement, "Espe women's movement, "Especially since the 1970s, many lesbians have founded their own martial arts schools." The strong feminist approach present at these lesbian schools is also evident at large gatherings like PAWMA.

Note: Next year's PAW-MA training weekend will be held in Malibu on Labor Day weekend. To get more information or to join the Pacific Association of Women Martial Artists call (415) 664-7034 or write to: PAWMA, P.O. Box 12861, Berkeley, CA 94701. Membership fees range between \$20 and \$40; it is a sliding scale. ▼



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Sat. Oct 30, 9:00-12 mid \$20 Full Moon Tantra Ritual Daniel Raymond & Scott Eaton

Every Tues, 7:30-10 pm \$15 The Erotic Brotherhood Safe sex sup port group

Every Sunday, 3 - 6 pm \$20 Men In Touch with Sammy Scott, or Matthew Simmons. Intimacy, touch and pleasure. Bring a towel

Every Wed, 6:30-8 pm Feeling Alive with Movement with Allan Stinson. By donation

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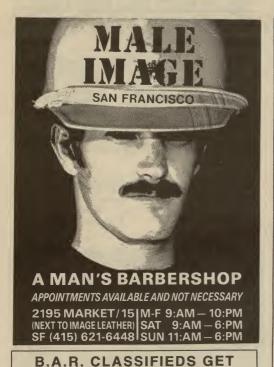
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Sports Briefs



Bay Area Boxing Club member Dennis Richards.

Race for the Cure

The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation's fundraising "sporting event with a mission," will be held Sunday, October 24, 1993 at 8:30 a.m., starting in Golden Gate Park's Sharon Meadow. Gate Park's Sharon Meadow. Raise money for this event as a pledged runner or walker. Funds will be used to provide up to 3,000 free mammograms to underserved women in the Bay Area. Lots of fun prizes will be given out, including round trip plane tickets to NYC, mountain bikes, and more. Your choice: 5k run, or 1 mile walk. Call 1-800-698-8699 for an entry form, or pick one up at Safeway, Pier 1 Imports, or Regis Salon.

Second All Gay **Boxing Rainbow** Championships

Nobody is ever required to spar with the Bay Area Boxing Club before they are ready, but some members of the lesbian and gay boxing club are ready for tournament action. The second tournament offered by BABC features both men's and women's competitions. Entrance is free to this Saturday October. free to this Saturday, October 30 event. All interested per-sons call Bay Area Boxing Club at 585-2365

Monterev Pre-Halloween **Diving Action**

Northern California Rain-Northern Callionna Rambow Divers head underwater for beach and boat dives, Sat-urday and Sunday, October 23 and 24. Call Greg Abrams at (415) 821-2877 for more in-

Sierra Club Action

Marin: Saturday October 23, a strenuous hike on north-

ern part of Marin's water district.

Also, Point Reyes hike — 9.3 miles on Greenpicker Trail — meet at 9 a.m. at Church and Market Thrifty, SF; or meet at 10:30 at Bear Valley Ranger Station. Call 281-5666 for more informa-

Gay and Lesbian Tennis Federation Tournament

Saturday and Sunday, October 23 and 24, lesbian and gay tennis players are invited to play in a B and C level tournament at Santa Clara Golf and Tennis Club. Call

Doug Gammons at (415) 550-1820 for more information.

Tennis in Costumes?

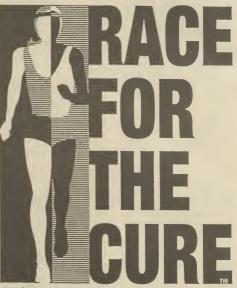
"Here's your only opportu-nity to play or watch tennis in costumes," said Third Annual Lesbian Mixed Doubles Ten-nis Tournament organizer Nanette Gartrell, M.D.

For many entrants, the costumes alone prove well worth the trip. For Martina fans, this tournament is a chance to this tournament is a chance to bid for special memorabilia: this year tennis giant and lesbian advocate Navratilova has donated "a racket, very used biking shorts, and two Tshirts, all signed — for our auction," according to Gartrell. You don't have to be an experienced auction bidder or tennis player to participate. This nis player to participate. This October 30-31 tournament — for pros and amateurs — features butch/femme teams, a women's health and fitness fair, and fabulously funny judge and commentator JoAnn Loulan. The event ben-efits the Lyon-Martin Wom-en's Health Services. Call (415) 346-2336 for an entry

69ers Are New in Town:

The 69ers are not the Forty-niners plus 20 fans. They're a new San Francisco Gay Softball League team, and they're looking for another eight or nine players—both male and female softball both male and female softball players are encouraged to come out. Their first fundrais-er will be held at Moby Dicks, and is a 50/50 raffle-pool, Sunday, October 24, at 1:00 p.m. during the Forty-niners game niners game

A sneak preview of the team's agenda revealed that high on the 69er priority list is the word fun. Also high on their priority list is 'likes to practice - a lot.' If you think this sounds like the softball experience for you, call David Stenlund at 415-861-4611.



The Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation



Genre Bending

Missing Angel Juan by Francesca Lia Block; HarperCollins, \$14

by Jeffery Kennedy

issing Angel Juan, the fourth and best book in Francesca Lia Block's award-winning young adult Weetzie Bat saga, pushes the boundaries of its genre to such extremes that it transto such extremes that it transcends them. Uninterested in middle-American niceties and piddling cheerleader intrigues, Block has created a dreamy world populated by oddball characters with wacky names attuned to the subtleties of life. Her closest literary kin is probably Roald Dahl, who also recognized that kids are open to weirdness and strongly identify with underdogs.

Block's Witch Baby is a different kind of heroine. The gnarled offspring of Weetzie's



boyfriend and witch Vixanne Wigg, she sees herself as unloved and unlovable, a less-than-human bastard who collects newspaper clippings about tragic disasters. When Witch Baby's soothing soul-mate Angel Juan ("He was the first person that made me feel first person that made me feel I belonged — like I wasn't just some freaky pain-gobbling goblin nobody understood") feels smothered by her love and goes to New York to find himself, her self-destructiveness rekindles, and out of desperation, she pursues him. She lodges in the apartment Weetzie's beloved father Charlie Bat vacated when he died, where two kind neight Charlie Bat vacated when he died, where two kind neighbor "ducks" (Weetzie-speak for "gay men"), Mallard and Meadows, offer to take her under their wing.
But it's the ghost of Charlie that sets Witch Baby on a trail of clues that leads to the

creepy subterranean lair of the evil translucent Cake. Cake preys on runaway youngsters. He captures their beauty by turning them into statues (much like the transvestite villain of the Japanese cult film Black Lizard), and with Charlie's guidance, Witch Baby discovers her own magic ("You just have to believe in yourself. Look your demons right in the eye") and defuses Cake's supernatural power. Her re-ward is greater than finding Angel Juan: she grows up.

Lavish Descriptions

From the first page to the last, it's obvious that Block loves the complex Witch Baby character. She reduces Weetzie's role to that of a disweetzie's role to that of a dis-tant mother figure in order to make room for lavish, de-tailed descriptions of Witch Baby's emotional terrain. Few writers are able to make common feelings such as love and loneliness as poignant and as tactile ("I feel the jagged teacup chips cutting me up") as Block does in the opening

chapter.
And here, as in the previous Weetzie Bat books, Block blurs the demarcation beblurs the demarcation be-tween fantasy and reality to the point of irrelevance. Block's goofy hybrid adjec-tives, run-on sentences, and poet's richness of language give Missing Angel Juan a mythical feel, a technicolor edge that messes with the reader's static vision. Nothing is what it seems to be: a slice is what it seems to be: a slice of cranberry bread is a lovers' feast, a patch of urban wilderness is a fertile jungle. When the ghost of Weetzie's dead father appears, Witch Baby—and the reader—trusts her eyes and doesn't ask questions. New York isn't merely

an oppressive landscape; it's all oppressive landscape, it's the physical manifestation of Witch Baby's unhappy, tortured psyche. It's also the dark opposite of Weetzie's sunny LA playground.

Block's strength as a writer Block's strength as a writer lies in her ability to unearth meaning where you least expect it. She dots her narrative with sharp, bright epiphanies that enlighten while they dazle. Her style is the antithesis of postmodernism, where lack of meaning is supposedly. of meaning is supposedly meaningful and encoded in empty symbols (see Doug Coupland's episodic novel Generation X or gregg araki's overrated film The Living End) and profound re-

Block dots her narrative with sharp, bright epiphanies that enlighten while they dazzle.

sponse is seen as too much to sponse is seen as too much to expect from a jaded audience. Block understands that young Americans—slackers or not—are emotional creatures struggling with life who crave knowledge. She reminds us that wisdom lurks in strange places. Missing Angel Juan appeals to the bewilderment in us all.

A Year on the Brink

A Year of Rhymes by Bernard Cooper; Viking, \$20

by Marv. Shaw

ge 11, the brink of puberty, can be a pretty ambiguous time. Burt Zirken, the younger son of a Jewish Los Angeles attorney, lives that year as a child-youth catching glimpses of adult life, trying to make sense of his experiences and at unexpected times feeling real flashes of nascent gayness, realizations he keeps carefully hidden from the rest of the world.

The actual rhymes are in 11, the brink of

world.

The actual rhymes are in poems in the book A Year of Rhymes for Young Adults, given to Burt by Aunt Ida, his mother's sister and an integral part of the family. For each of the 365 dates, there is a poem on the passage of a poem on the passage of time and the nature of love.

The metaphorical rhyming is in Burt's attempted matching of the realities of his world with his developing un-

world with his developing understanding.

Much of the attempted matching involves his brother Bob, ten years his senior. Bob is a process server for their father, and he propels Burt into adult situations the led in constitute not reached. Burt into adult situations the lad is sometimes not ready for, such as Bob's infatuation with Marion Hirsch, a really zaftig artist. Though Burt is fascinated with Marion, she is exotically unreal for him.

Ouite without knowing it, he is the inspiration for Burt's

Definitely real is his par ents' happy marriage, ditto that of the Zirkens' Armenian neighbors, Eve and Arnold Mennasian — plus Aunt Ida's blossoming romance with a doting mechanic.

Anarchic Brood

Threatening the harmony of Burt's life's rhymes is the King brood next door, four highly anarchic kids who are



often left to their own devi-ous devices while their ne-glectful parents lurch after their own careers. But Brad King, Burt's age, is an imaginative and rather sadistic practical joker — and

an incipient homophobe. Nevertheless, quite without Brad's knowing it, he is the inspiration for Burt's erec-

Also, Burt has a hell of a crush on Jeff Chandler, a screen star of this era — early 1960s. Add to that the attraction Burt feels for a most virile fire marshal who comes to his capabal to instruct and

ile fire marshal who comes to his school to instruct and demonstrate fire procedures.

Then brother Bob develops a debilitating illness, leukemia. It is winter, and on the afternoon of New Year's Eve, the brothers join the end-of-year madness by showering down the calendar days from their father's downtown office. The pages of A Year in Rhymes for Young Adults follow.

It would be much too facile to think of that antic gesture as marking a rejection of what has been, but there is of what has been, but there is a distinct feeling of the destruction that must precede new growth. The growth will probably be haphazard and not without sad loss, as is suggested by the book's closing episode, a game of blind man's bluff. But Burt has seized the initiative boldly for the first time, and the reader feels that the very young hero will be OK.

Like Cooper's previous book, Maps to Anywhere, A Year of Rhymes demonstrates an original, affecting style. In this book we feel the genuine perceptions, thoughts, sensations, and emotions of a kid, even though an extraordinary adult sensibility is registering it all.



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OCTOBER 21, 1993



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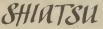
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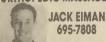




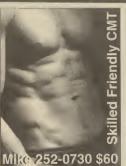
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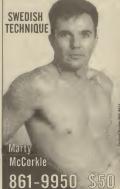
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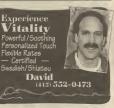
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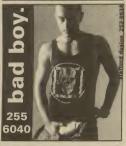
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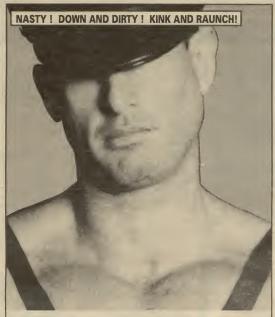
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